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Day of inspiration

Over 300 are arrested as ACT UP/New York storms the Big Apple and shuts down Grand Central Station in the group's most dramatic action to date

By Chris Nealon

NEW YORK — In perhaps its most ambitious action to date, ACT UP/New York staged a 24-hour "Day of Desperation" Jan. 22-23, startling a city that had been preoccupied with the war in the Persian Gulf. By the end of the "Day," the still-rising tally of arrests had reached approximately 320 — the largest ever for an ACT UP/New York demonstration.

Activists began the day with two surprise appearances on national news programs on the evening of the 22nd (see page 2), moved on to marches through Wall Street, the Bronx, and Harlem, and wound up by storming Grand Central Station at rush hour on the 23rd. Along the way, numerous affinity groups showered workers with leaflets and occupied the offices of city, state, and federal agencies.

"A lot of it is still spinning out," said ACT UP's Ron Goldberg, one of the organizers of the action. "But I can say that we managed to get a domestic issue on the news for the first time in a week, which is astonishing."

Goldberg told *GCN* he thought each of the major components of the day's activities had contributed to the overall success of the action. "The TV appearances forced everyone to see that we were going to be doing things all throughout the day," he said. Referring to the current national focus on the Gulf war and the strained economy, he added, "And with the morning march we put everybody on notice that we were not going to fall for this 'war and budget' smoke-screen."

But it was the rush-hour blockade at Grand Central, said Goldberg, that seemed to have the most dramatic effect on the public. "It was very powerful," he remarked. According to ACT UP, thousands of commuters watched as a giant banner reading, "Money for AIDS Not War" rose to the ceiling, lifted by balloons; minutes later, the crowd's attention shifted to the station's main schedule board, which activists had obscured with a banner that read, "One AIDS Death Every Eight Minutes."

Surprisingly, Goldberg said, the reaction of commuters was not hostile. "There were people screaming [AIDS activist slogans] on the sidelines who were not from ACT UP," he said, "and the [supportive] people the TV stations were interviewing were not from ACT UP."

Goldberg said that his impression from watching the coverage of the blockade, in fact, was that people "saw that the point is, 'what are our priorities?'" Citing some of the familiar responses to charges by AIDS activists that the crisis is being ignored, he said, "If it wasn't the war, it was the budget; if it wasn't the budget, it was something else."

'Unbelievably favorable'

Adam, another ACT UP member, said he thought that all of the day's activities were well received, particularly by area television. "The local media coverage was unbelievably favorable," he told *GCN*. He added that, "In general, I think anti-war protest sentiment kind of got married to our movement."

ACT UP's Victor Mendolia agreed. "I've been shocked by the media coverage, because it's been brilliant," Mendolia told *GCN*. "It's just been amazing. Basically they got the issue; they got the idea: our country can build a city in the desert, feed and house people, in a matter of months — why isn't it possible to provide basic services for people with AIDS?"

Mendolia said he thought the positive media response was a gratifying pay-off because ACT UP had put so much energy into the action, which was in the works for three months. "This is an acceleration and heightening of our activism," said Mendolia. "It's an escalation of our tactics."

At least one affinity group, from ACT UP's alternative and holistic treatment committee, had an impromptu meeting with officials at the Health and Hospital Corporation. Several ACT UP members reported that treatment activists spoke for 45 minutes with officials, winning a promise that city hospitals would begin to provide acupuncture and other alternative treatments.

Mendolia added that although ACT UP has always been confrontational, it was a new development to be "bursting into office and getting meetings on the spot."

"It's [been] a brilliant action," he said. "It's gone completely without a hitch."

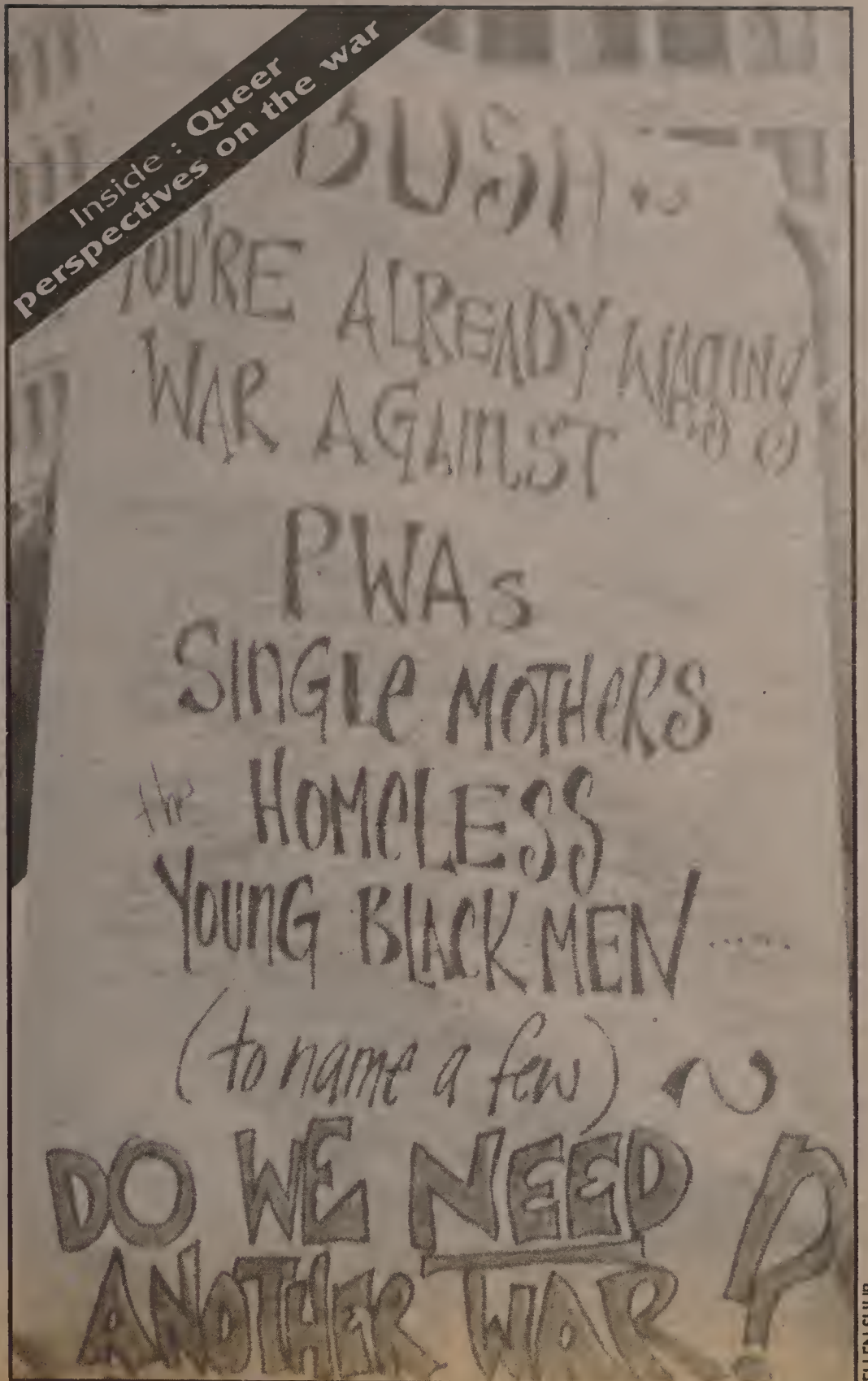
Other actions

ACT UP's Goldberg said he thought the day's other actions also went extremely well. Among the most satisfying, he said, was the blockade that stopped traffic in Harlem for an hour. At that action, said Goldberg, activists demanded major improvements in health care and housing for homeless people with AIDS-related health problems. The blockade was orchestrated by several groups, including ACT UP and Emmaus House, an advocacy center for homeless people. "That was a very big success for us in terms of coalition-building," Goldberg said.

In another major action, ACT UP's Latino Committee stormed the offices of Bronx Borough President Fernando Ferrer, charging him with ignoring the AIDS crisis in the Bronx. Activists presented Ferrer with a "Certificate of Negligence," and demanded a meeting with him.

"I think it was successful in terms of

Continued on page 7



ELLEN SHUB

AMA backs HIV disclosure

A new recommendation says that HIV-positive health care workers should reveal their HIV status to patients

By Chris Nealon

WASHINGTON—Hot on the heels of the much-publicized Kimberly Bergalis case, the American Medical Association (AMA) and the American Dental Association (ADA) recommended last week that HIV-positive health care workers inform their patients of their status, or stop practicing.

The Jan. 18 announcement was released the same day as a Centers for Disease Control (CDC) report that found that Florida dentist David Acer may have transmitted HIV not only to Bergalis, but to two other patients as well. Health care workers denounced the AMA/ADA decision, charging that the organizations have succumbed to public paranoia about AIDS.

Bergalis, meanwhile, reached a \$1 million settlement with her insurance carrier Jan. 23, arguing that the company was liable for having sent her to Acer. Observers in AIDS service organizations claim that the CDC has allowed such wide publicity to surround the Bergalis case because the federal agency is preparing to unveil stringent anti-HIV transmission guidelines for health care workers. There is particular speculation that such a policy will require testing and/or disclosure of HIV status for medical personnel. (See *GCN*, Jan. 27.) The new AMA/ADA disclosure recommendation, however, is the first official announcement from a major physicians' group.

"It's a knee-jerk resolution designed for the protection of their self-interest," said Dr. Ruth Finkelstein, director of research at Washington's AIDS Action Council. Finkelstein told *GCN* that given the extremely small possibility of doctor-patient transmission of HIV, she thought the medical groups were sending "an irresponsible message" to the public.

Finkelstein said she was upset that the AMA and ADA announcement focused on the issue of disclosing health care workers' HIV status instead of addressing the question of doctors' hygienic standards. Because of the AMA/ADA overriding concern with disclosure, she said, patients are likely to get the impression that no amount of carefulness can prevent the transmission of HIV.

Not only does the AMA/ADA's emphasis

on disclosure instead of hygiene create the specter of losing thousands of medical workers, Finkelstein said, but the disclosure recommendations could have disastrous consequences for HIV-positive patients as well. She said she agreed with other observers that doctors would probably stop treating HIV-positive people, for fear of receiving the virus themselves. "If the AMA is saying that universal precautions don't work," said Finkelstein, "then it's not a leap of logic to imagine that doctors will not want to treat patients with HIV."

Benjamin Schatz, executive director of the Medical Expertise Retention Program of the American Association of Physicians for Human Rights (AAPHR), told *GCN* he thinks the AMA/ADA disclosure announcement is particularly disturbing, given the speculation about a similar — and legally binding — proposal from the CDC. "What seemed like an abstract threat now seems more real," said Schatz.

Schatz also said he thought the AMA/ADA message "will make it harder to fight the CDC," because the announcement adds momentum to the belief that medical regulations, not medical ethics, are the way to stall doctor-patient transmission of HIV.

In the meantime, said Schatz, health care workers around the U.S. who are opposed to the disclosure recommendation are preparing to travel to the CDC in Atlanta for a "public meeting" that will include discussion of doctor-patient HIV transmission. "People are really organizing for [it]," said Schatz.

Effect on specialists

Dr. Peter Hawley, medical director at Washington's Whitman-Walker Clinic, told *GCN* that physicians working to provide AIDS services were unhappy with the AMA/ADA announcement. "I think everybody is sort of appalled that the AMA would do this," Hawley said.

He added, though, that he doubted that medical professionals would actually follow the AMA/ADA's suggestion. "I don't think people will do it," said Hawley. "The AMA has no governing effect; and many doctors are not members."

Continued on page 7

ACT UP disrupts evening news

NEW YORK — As anchorperson Dan Rather opened the Jan. 22 edition of the *CBS Evening News*, the veteran broadcaster was interrupted by members of ACT UP/New York. Activists also targeted Public Broadcasting System's (PBS) *MacNeil-Lehrer News Hour*.

The opening seconds of the nightly news program, which were rebroadcast on the Cable News Network (CNN), featured the show's title graphics and Rather's voice-over. In the background, viewers could clearly hear the sound of shouting voices. As the picture shifted to the anchor's face, he said, "Good evening, I'm Dan Rather." At this point, the face of a man popped into the frame, and he was heard shouting, "Fight AIDS, Not Arabs." A disgruntled Rather quickly said, "We're going to go to a commercial now." The shouting man was pulled out of the frame, but voices could still be heard chanting "Fight AIDS, Not Arabs." Rather more urgently suggested that the broadcast go to a commercial, and the scene faded out.

CNN reported that the activists had used fake CBS identification badges to gain entry to the studios, and that the protesters had been arrested and charged with trespass. Also placed into police custody were seven protesters who delayed the start of the *MacNeil-Lehrer News Hour* after "breaking into the station," according to the *Boston Globe*.

—Christopher Wittke

KKK rally foiled

ALBANY, N.Y. — A would-be Ku Klux Klan rally on the Capitol steps here was thwarted Jan. 20, as approximately 1,500 anti-Klan demonstrators took over the proceedings. The counter-demonstrators chanted, heckled the dozen or so Klansmen present, and threw snowballs at them. The Klan members had gathered to protest New York's celebration of the Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday.

According to the *New York Times*, no Klansmen appeared at the rally site until almost an hour after its scheduled 2 p.m. start. Just before 3 p.m., a small group of Klan members from Connecticut gathered at the Capitol, only to be faced down by the angry crowd. The Klansmen left shortly thereafter, fleeing a rain of snowballs and eggs.

Although no arrests or injuries were reported at the event, anti-Klan demonstrators clashed briefly with police when officers tried to restrain a demonstrator who was approaching one of the Klansmen. The scuffle sparked cries of, "Cops and Klan go hand in hand."

Commenting on the Klan's small turnout and swift departure, Albany counter-demonstrator David Macks said, "These aren't the Klan's kind of odds. It's daylight, they're outnumbered, and they have no ropes and no guns."

—Chris Nealon

Utah Senate passes strict anti-choice bill

SALT LAKE CITY—Despite charges by pro-choice advocates that lawmakers here are rushing the legislative process, the Utah Senate passed a strict anti-abortion bill Jan. 23. According to the *New York Times*, if the measure is passed by the House and signed by the governor, Utah will become the first state to outlaw most abortions.

The proposed measure, which observers predict could be passed by the House as early as Jan. 25, is written in two parts. The first part makes abortion legal only to save a woman's life or in cases where she might suffer "life-threatening damage." The second, less stringent part would allow abortions to prevent "grave damage to the pregnant woman's medical health." The second part of the bill would take effect only if the first part is limited or overturned by court rulings. The Senate voted 23 to 5 in favor of the bill.

Last year, legislators in Idaho and Louisiana passed similar measures, but they were eventually vetoed by the governors in those states. However, Utah Gov. Norman H. Bangerter has said that if the legislation is approved, he will sign it immediately.

"It's time to get this legislation before the courts so we can receive some definitive information as to what the state can do to more fully protect the sanctity and dignity of life," Bangerter wrote in a letter to Sen. LeRay McAllister, the Republican sponsor of the bill.

In response to the expected passage of the

bill, the Utah chapter of the National Organization for Women (NOW) may attempt to block the state's bid to host the Winter Olympics in 1998.

Sen. Karen Shepherd, one of the five Democrats who voted against the measure, addressed NOW's tactic and charged that the proposed law would cost the state an inordinate amount of money.

"I know many of you feel no cost is too great, but it is a process that will be out of our control very quickly," said Shepherd. "I fear Utah will pay in terms of the Olympics, tourism and conventions and in human lives and suffering."

The Utah affiliate of the National Abortion Rights Action League is planning a rally against the bill, scheduled for noon on Jan. 26 outside the Capitol building in Salt Lake City.

—Chris Nealon

Boston mayor attends anti-abortion event

BOSTON—Over 20 abortion rights activists gathered outside the annual Massachusetts Citizens For Life (MCFL) convention Jan. 20 to object to the MCFL's attempts to restrict women's freedom of choice. The event, which was held two days before the eighteenth anniversary of *Roe v. Wade*, was sponsored by the Boston affiliate of the Reproductive Rights National Network (R2N2).

"We want to make it clear that there is a strong pro-choice movement," R2N2's Hilary Roberts told *GCN*. "The anti-choice people essentially deal with issues around sexuality. They preach only straight sex that is religiously acceptable. [Such rules and definitions] are contradictory to women's rights and the gay and lesbian movement," she added.

One issue that pro-choice activists said they were particularly angry about was Mayor Ray Flynn's participation in the MCFL conference. "It is incredible that Mayor Flynn can attend this pro-life assembly and get away with it," declared R2N2's Alexis Ladd. "People don't even know he attends," she said, "and he certainly is not representing a majority of the town." When *GCN* asked an MCFL conference organizer if Flynn would be at the assembly, she replied, "Oh yes, he should be here. He's always been here."

Flynn appeared in the convention program under "Greetings from the City of Boston." Madeline McComish, the chairperson of the MCFL state political action committee, told *GCN*, "Mayor Flynn has attended the conference for 18 years now as both an individual and a political representative." She added that the mayor speaks before the assembly "as a representative of Boston."

In his speech, Flynn congratulated the MCFL on its anti-abortion efforts. He also made a comparison between their pro-life activities and the actions of the United States in the Middle East war. "We fight for life here in Boston," said Flynn, "and we fight for life in foreign countries." He concluded his speech by offering the MCFL a proclamation from "the people of Boston," saying, "We declare this Sanctuity of Life Sunday, and we urge all Bostonians to join together to use this opportunity to pause and reflect how we can use the sanctity of life as a cornerstone of our nation."

Other city and state officials present at the conference included Boston City Councilor Albert "Dapper" O'Neil and Judge Paul Moriarty of Brockton District Court.

—Elizabeth Yukins

British actors come out en masse

LONDON—Queen Elizabeth II probably didn't know what she was starting when she knighted openly gay actor Ian McKellen on New Year's Eve. According to the *Bay Area Reporter*, McKellen's knighting has snowballed into a mass self-outing by 18 famed British dramatists who publicly joined together to support McKellen's acceptance of the honor.

"It was Margaret Thatcher's [homophobic] government that got me out [of the closet]," said McKellen. "I despise the Ian McKellen of the first 49 years of his life. Gays must come out, and the sooner the better," he said. McKellen, a famed Shakespearean actor, was knighted for his exceptional talents in the arts.

Despite the gay community's largely celebratory response to McKellen's knighthood, controversy erupted Jan. 8 when filmmaker Derek Jarman wrote an article for *The Guardian*, a major daily newspaper, calling on McKellen to reject the title. Jarman, an openly gay man with AIDS,

wrote that McKellen should refuse knighthood because Thatcher's conservative administration, which chose McKellen for the award, has "stigmatized homosexuality."

In response to Jarman's article and to show support for McKellen, 18 gay and lesbian actors, directors, and other dramatists outed themselves in a letter to *The Guardian*. The letter's authors, only seven of whom had previously been openly gay, sought to "distance" themselves from Jarman's views, and, "as gay and lesbian artists," expressed feelings of solidarity with McKellen.

"Never again will public figures be able to claim that they have to keep secret their homosexuality in fear of it damaging their career," the artists wrote. "Ian McKellen provides an inspiration to us all, not only as an artist of extraordinary gifts, but as a figure of remarkable honesty and dignity."

Greg King, spokesperson for the Human Rights Campaign Fund, the largest gay lobbying organization in the U.S., praised McKellen's achievements. "I certainly hope this sends a message to Hollywood and Broadway that the time has come to open the closet doors," said King.

McKellen's knighthood ironically comes at a time when Great Britain is under attack for its discriminatory and homophobic human rights policies. In recent weeks, British judges and Members of Parliament have enacted a series of anti-gay laws that seriously infringe upon the rights of gay men and lesbians.

The International Lesbian and Gay Association (ILGA) has responded by calling for an international day of anti-British demonstrations on Feb. 14. Lisa Power, co-secretary general of ILGA, urges activists to "burn the British flag in front of the British embassy, or some other culturally appropriate action."

—Elizabeth Yukins

Holocaust revisionist draws protests

BOSTON—Despite the freezing cold, over 50 demonstrators stood outside the Malden District Court Jan. 22 to protest Fred Leuchter and his revisionist theories of the Holocaust. Approximately one third of the protestors were gay people who came to the demonstration to remember lesbians and gay men killed in the Nazi concentration camps, as well as to show solidarity with Jewish Holocaust victims.

In 1988, Leuchter published a report that denied that Nazis used poisonous gas chambers to murder millions of people during World War II. The report enraged activists, who voiced their anger last week in Malden where Leuchter is on trial for a separate issue. (The state has accused Leuchter of practicing engineering without legal certification.)

"Many groups perished under the Nazis," Fern Brown, a Jewish lesbian who arranged much of the gay presence at the demonstration, told *GCN*. "The Holocaust is not just a Jewish issue, and it needs to be looked at as such. We need to fight Leuchter and his revisionist lies together."

Jack Nusan Porter, a professor of sociology and a historian of the Holocaust at Bryant College, said that his research has shown that 15,000 to 20,000 gay men and lesbians died "directly as victims of the Nazis." Porter told *GCN*, "Jews have to keep in mind that gays and other non-Jewish people were also victims of the Holocaust. Although some people may not want to recognize them, they are part of our history."

Reaction to the lesbian and gay presence at the anti-Leuchter demonstration was largely favorable. "I think it's important that gay people are here," said Leonard Zakim, regional director of the Anti-Defamation League. He told *GCN* that, "Obviously the gay community was targeted by Hitler too, and as the revisionist movement grows in this country, we all have to be particularly vigorous in our response to the lies." At one point in the protest, demonstrators sang, "We shall overcome, gays and Jews together."

Catherine Odette, a member of the Jewish Lesbian Daughters of Holocaust Survivors, told *GCN*, "I'm really happy to see the lesbian and gay turnout. We are outraged that somebody like Leuchter can get away with this crap. We won't let martyrs be forgotten." Odette held a sign remembering Jenny Scherman, a Jewish lesbian who was killed in the Holocaust.

Protestors hope that if Leuchter is convicted for illegal engineering practices, his reputation and the credibility of his report will be severely damaged.

—Elizabeth Yukins

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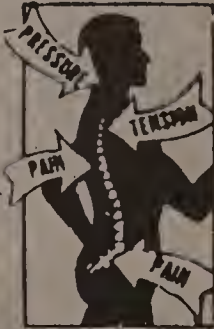
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Operation Rescue tries new tactic

A lawyer for the anti-abortionist group asks the court to hand over patients' confidential medical records

By Elizabeth Yukins
 BOSTON—Using what pro-choice activists call a new form of intimidation and harassment, anti-abortionists have requested a court order for the release of patient records from five local abortion clinics. The move is an attempt by Operation Rescue to force local pro-choice groups to drop a lawsuit against the anti-abortion organization.

"We are worried that this is just another means of harassment, and also a way of getting us to drop the case," said Theresa Martland, an attorney for one of the clinics targeted by the new tactic.

Last year, area abortion clinics and pro-choice advocacy groups brought suit against Operation Rescue demonstrators, charging that they interfered with women's rights to receive abortions. On Jan. 16, the defense attorney for several of the anti-abortion demonstrators, Robert Miley, requested that the state Supreme Judicial Court (SJC) order five abortion clinics involved in the suit to release information regarding women who have sought abortions.

Miley declined to comment on the case to *GCN*, but according to the *Boston Globe* and court statements, he told the SJC that the patient information was necessary to attain a fair trial for the Operation Rescue demonstrators. Miley argued that since the defendants are being accused of violating women's constitutional rights, they are entitled to know the identity of their accusers so that their lawyers can question the women.

Miley asked abortion clinics to release the names of women who had scheduled appointments on the days of Operation Rescue blockades, and to identify which of these women allegedly cancelled, rescheduled, or did not show up for their appointments. If Miley's request is accepted, the plaintiffs say they will be forced to drop the charges because the clinics refuse to

sacrifice the confidentiality rights of their clients.

Lawyers for the abortion clinics denounced Miley's request as unnecessary and provocative. Martland said that because Operation Rescue members are known for their aggressive tactics, she believes they may attempt to hassle and intimidate patients if they get hold of the medical records.

Martland also pointed out that there is "no individual woman who is a plaintiff in this case." She explained that all the plaintiffs in the suit are abortion clinics and pro-choice organizations who represent women patients, and that this is standard procedure in abortion rights cases. Operation Rescue is thus, Martland said, "going after women not even involved in the case."

Glenda Barkin, director of public relations at Repro Associates, an abortion clinic named in the suit, called Miley's request "preposterous." "Why should [Operation Rescue demonstrators] be privy to this information?" she queried. "The decision for an abortion is one made between a patient and her doctor, and the privacy of this decision is technically outlined in the law." Barkin told *GCN* that she does not believe the anti-abortion activists will get the records, and that the defendants are "desperate people using desperate means to achieve a desperate goal."

Ellen Convisser, president of the Massachusetts National Organization for Women (MASS NOW), said that the Operation Rescue suit serves as an example of how the anti-abortion organization "has lost tremendous momentum this past year both locally and nationally."

Convisser told *GCN* that the local chapter of Operation Rescue has seen especially hard times. "The strategy they initially designed

Continued on page 7

Prisoners form AIDS education program

The AIDS Education Workshop is run for -- and by -- prisoners

By Elizabeth Yukins
 NORFOLK, Mass.—At a time when budget cutbacks are severely hampering state health care programs, a group of prisoners have taken the task of AIDS education into their own hands. In a startlingly progressive program, prisoners have joined together to form an AIDS workshop that teaches other prisoners the causes, symptoms, and effects of HIV- and AIDS-related illnesses.

"The program came about when a bunch of guys began to see the pain of HIV-positive people in the prison," said Doc, the director of the AIDS Education Workshop. He told *GCN*, "The program is aimed at creating a better understanding of AIDS and a little more compassion for those who are HIV positive."

Doc, who asked that his real name not be used, has been involved with the AIDS project since it began at Mass. Correctional Institute, Norfolk in December 1989. At a conference designed to introduce the AIDS Workshop to the public, Doc reported that 26 trained prisoners now staff the project, and that over 1300 Norfolk prisoners have graduated from the AIDS awareness classes.

Doc said that the program is bilingual, and he stressed that it is run by a "diverse and multicultural board of directors." He also said that the program seeks to educate the prisoners about all different AIDS risk factors. "We teach the men that drug use can infect a person with HIV," he said, "but during the course of our classes men become very aware of dangerous sexual practices too."

The Norfolk program is unusual in the United States prison system because it has been completely initiated, organized, and funded by prisoners. Judy Greenspan, the AIDS information coordinator of the American Civil Liberties Union National Prison Project, praised the prisoners efforts, saying, "Norfolk is a prison in the forefront of peer education and counseling."

Greenspan told *GCN* that the peer model for AIDS instruction "is the best and most enlightened way to reach prisoners because the men are more likely to believe and

identify with one another."

She explained that the "official" version of AIDS education consisted of an outdated video and a 10-minute lecture from a correctional officer. "This information is rarely even listened to," Greenspan added, "because often a man has just entered the prison system and is feeling disoriented and withdrawn."

Tim Gagnon, the AIDS coordinator for the state's Department of Correction (DOC), echoed Greenspan, saying that the workshop "gives the men three and one-half hours of solid AIDS education, and it is taught to them by people they live with and trust." Gagnon has been involved with the project since its inception, and numerous prisoners commented to *GCN* that he was instrumental in getting the prison administration to accept the program.

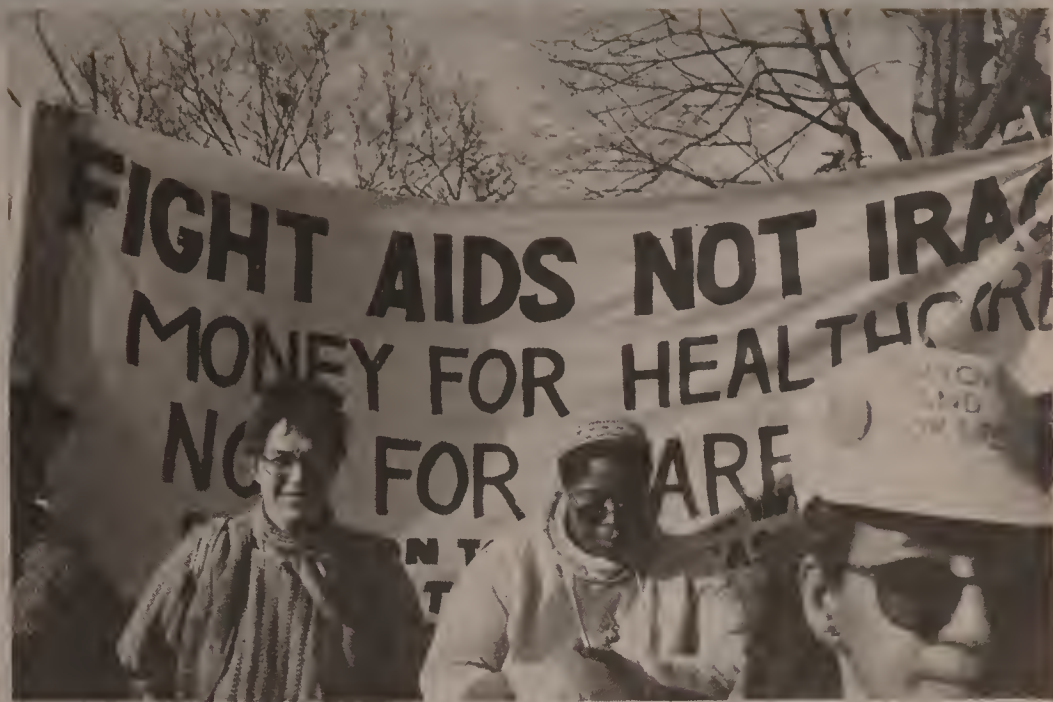
Discussion about an AIDS workshop began in October, 1989, when a group of prisoners approached Gagnon about the need for AIDS education. Gagnon and the DOC's Department of Health then began working with prisoners to design the program and establish a 16-week educational course to train prisoner instructors.

The AIDS education project is divided into a two-session workshop. In the first class, prisoners are taught history about AIDS and HIV, disease definitions, how HIV is transmitted, and symptoms of AIDS- and HIV-related illnesses. In the second session, the men are instructed on the importance of HIV testing and confidentiality, and the prevention of HIV transmission. They also learn how to obtain treatment information.

"Often the teaching is difficult," Doc said, "because a lot of the men don't read and write well." The Workshop has responded to this problem, he explained, by breaking down AIDS information and the curriculum's format into very basic categories.

Gagnon told *GCN* that approximately 360 prisoners in the state prison system are currently identified as having AIDS. He said, however, that this is a very low and rough figure because the state only

Continued on page 7



Tens of thousands travelled to Washington to protested the Persian Gulf War, Jan. 19

JOHN ZEH

Anti-war protesters descend on D.C.

Political differences permeate the first national demonstration against the war

By John Zeh
 WASHINGTON—Gay men and lesbians joined thousands of other protesters at the White House Jan. 19 in the first of two major marches here against war in the Persian Gulf. The protest was called by the National Coalition to Stop U.S. Intervention in the Middle East.

President George Bush, away at his Camp David, Md., retreat, missed the action.

While police estimated that 25,000 demonstrators were on hand, organizers said that four times that number marched from Lafayette Park to the U.S. Capitol. Unconfirmed reports indicate that attendance was limited because police prevented hundreds of protesters who arrived by chartered busses at a subway station from riding the subway to the demonstration site.

Members of the National Organization for Reform of Marijuana Laws (NORML) carried signs that urged, "Hemp for Fuel, Not Blood for Oil." A banner posted on a bank at Madison Place by ACT UP/Long Island read, "Health care not warfare." Police arrested about 10 people for disorderly conduct and blocking traffic.

The only openly gay or lesbian speaker at the event was Joe Franco, a member of ACT UP/New York's Latino caucus. Franco, who is a person with AIDS, drew parallels to "a pair" of life-threatening battles.

"I am experiencing two wars, one in the Middle East, the other inside my body," he said. "They are both very real, and are the direct result of a total lack of respect and regard for all living things."

Franco pointed out that the U.S. has been at war against AIDS for the past 10 years. In that war, he said, "the enemy is a viral pathogen; in the Middle East war, it's ethnocentric nationalism. Motivation for the AIDS war is homophobia, addictophobia, racism, classism and sexism. For the war in the Middle East, it's private interests of imperialistic nations."

Franco said that the war against AIDS is being lost by "government inaction in the form of genocide by neglect" while "active, male, military technology fights the Persian Gulf battle."

"The outcome of both is mass death," he said.

Many gay and lesbian participants who were interviewed at the event also drew parallels between the war in the Persian Gulf and the fight to end the AIDS pandemic.

"They're spending money on the war and not on people," said Kathleen Dermody, who traveled from Cedar Grove, N.J., to attend the protest. "And it's a chance to be visible as a lesbian." Dermody is a mainstay of AT&T's Lesbian & Gay United Employee Group, a national corporate effort to promote workers' visibility and equal rights.

"This country is coming apart at the seams," added Kevin Berrill, who runs the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force's Anti-Violence Project. "We have more people who are homeless, and the battle we have to wage against AIDS has a long way to go, and war is just a misallocation of our time, energy and human resources," he said.

"When this war is over, we're going to wake up with a huge hangover," said Berrill.

Activists from Greenpeace and Friends of the Earth warned other protesters about war's cataclysmic effects on the Middle East's

environment.

"Weapons of mass destruction are manufactured to create as much havoc to the physical and biological environment as possible," said Peter Bahouth, Greenpeace's executive director.

Bahouth said that there are 100 nuclear weapons in the area, plus 20 nuclear reactors on land or naval vessels, "with great consequences if they are hit."

"We've heard that a third of Kuwait's 1,000 oil wells have been mined. If they blow, three million barrels of oil can be spewed into the atmosphere...smoke could theoretically cover 100 million square kilometers, wreaking havoc to the area's agriculture and economy," continued Bahouth.

"Huge oil spills in the Iran/Iraq war that covered the Persian Gulf killed a lot of marine life. It has the potential to impact many more lives than those who might get caught in a crossfire," he said.

While the event drew diverse elements of a growing anti-war alliance, participants expressed different ideological and political perspectives about the war itself.

"People here who say, 'America—love it or leave it' are just as radical and fringe as people on the other side who say the U.S. has no business in the Middle East," said Barrett Brick, of the World Congress of Gay and Lesbian Jewish Organizations.

Standing near Bush supporters singing the national anthem, Brick criticized Iraq for "continuing to pillage and rape Kuwait."

Rick Rosendall, a member of the Gay and Lesbian Activists Alliance and the Gay Men's Chorus here, said that people should know that the gay community is "not monolithic."

"While we're not happy necessarily about all of Bush's foreign policy that led to this war, some of us recognize that there is evil in the world, and sometimes we have to fight it."

Asked to comment on this view, a lesbian from East Rutherford, N.J., said that she's still studying the issue to find an answer. "People continuously [think] I'm defending Hussein, and that's not what it is," said Georgia Glancies, a factory worker and communications student.

"I'm defending the boys and women over there. I just think sanctions should have been given more time," said Glancies. "An eye for an eye only leaves the world blind," she said, quoting Gandhi.

The differences between participants was evidence of a larger split in the growing anti-war effort. Many peace activists did not attend the Jan. 19 march because of political differences with the Coalition. Organizers were criticized for their refusal to condemn Iraq's invasion of Kuwait and approve of economic sanctions.

The rally's gay and lesbian contingent also included activists who opposed the Workers' World Party's "isolationist appeasement" of Saddam Hussein. (WWP is a member of the Coalition.)

Another rally and march will be held Jan. 26, beginning at noon at the Capitol. The upcoming event is being sponsored by the National Campaign for Middle East Peace, students, the War Resisters League, the Fellowship of Reconciliation and others who have condemned Hussein's attack on Kuwait and supported sanctions except food and medical supplies.

COMMUNITY VOICES

GCN Job Opening

Staff Writer/Circulation Co-Coordinator

Available in April. Research, investigate and write news stories with a national scope. May include some analytical/feature writing as well. Share responsibilities with other staff writer for coordinating weekly mailing of paper and processing subscriptions.

Qualifications: Strong writing skills and ability to write several stories under weekly deadline pressure. Knowledge of national/local lesbian and gay community and issues helpful. Strong organizational and record-keeping skills as well as knowledge of data entry and/or computers also helpful.

Deadline for application: March 8, 1991

All GCN positions require commitments to lesbian/gay liberation, feminism, anti-racism, an awareness of class issues, and a commitment to collective decision-making.

Salary/Benefits: All positions pay \$215/week and include health/life insurance through Harvard Community Health Plan, sick leave, and four weeks paid vacation. GCN offers staff members responsibility for their own jobs, with flexibility and ample room for innovation.

To apply: Please send resume and cover letter to: GCN Job Search Committee, 62 Berkeley St., Boston, MA 02116.

GCN Editorial Guidelines

The "Community Voices" and "Speaking Out" sections in GCN are parts of our efforts to provide a true forum of opinion for the community. We encourage you to send your ideas, feelings and comments to us, and to respond to ideas expressed within our pages. We welcome all contributions except personal attacks. Copies of letters and "Speaking Out" contributions sent elsewhere are printed on a space available basis only. GCN reserves the right to edit letters and "Speaking Out" contributions for length and clarity, in consultation with the author. The opinions expressed are those of the author and are not intended to represent the views of the GCN staff or membership.

All letter and "Speaking Out" contributions must be TYPED and DOUBLE-SPACED. Letters can be NO LONGER THAN TWO PAGES. Speaking Out" contributions can be NO LONGER THAN FOUR PAGES and require a short (one to two sentence) biographical note about the author for inclusion at the end of the article.

Because GCN wishes to encourage dialogue and a diverse representation of perspectives on the letters pages, printing of "Speaking Out" contributions received from authors who have had other "Speaking Outs" appear in GCN recently may be postponed temporarily.

For editing purposes, it is helpful to be able to contact you easily -- please enclose your name, address, and daytime phone number with your letter or article. Thanks.

Send to: Community Voices/Speaking Out, GCN, 62 Berkeley Street, Boston, MA 02116.

The wrong message

Dear GCN:

Your January article on the current money problems besieging the Boston Lesbian and Gay Center showed timely reporting on an important and developing community organization. Unfortunately, it also supplied us with a wrong financial message from the Center's leadership.

Being inactive from the Center since the end of 1987, I've never had the occasion to meet its presiding President—Carol Wessling. I'm sure Carol is an intelligent woman; I know she's well intentioned. But unless the Center's Board of Directors and she clearly understand why the Center exists and who unabashedly it primarily serves, then I'm afraid, they'll need to reserve more monthly copy space to cover this issue again and again.

I sense the time is approaching when The Center's leadership will need to discipline itself to begin to make the hard decisions it thought it could possibly elude. As the

Center's evolution continues, financial dilemmas such as this one will help to remind its Board of Directors of who comes first. Put another way: Are we still fully servicing those who are our "bread and butter" or are our clients a part of *everything* we do here?

In business, a time of reflection usually accompanies a downturn in sales. Shopkeepers—big or small—often equate loss of revenues with a loss of customers. True, they could be mismanaging the store, but often they are simply forgetting about the needs of their specific clientele. Likewise, The Center's leadership is slowly doing the same. Listen just for a second to Ms. Wessling's solution for returning us to solvency: "What we need now is for people with the resources to write big checks to start writing them to us." What Carol is apparently saying is that will all those rich or near rich gay men and women in town, please come aboard quickly...and bail us out.

Sound familiar? It was also a distress cry heard in 1988 by The Center's first Board of Directors, adrift in a sea of confusion and uncertainty over how to fundraise needed capital. Shortly later, a generous, and independently thinking businessman named Larry Basile muscled up a "hunk" of 25,000 dollar bills to pull us ashore to where we anchor ourselves today. But how often do we want to be battered by these money squalls at our home port?

It's time now to begin to rely on ourselves and turn true course. Specifically to those who come first—our rank and file group membership. Mr. Basile's gift to us was timely, well received, and useful, but the size of it has the potential of continuing a precedent that runs counter to how a Community Center is *basically* funded. A community center is funded by the general community it serves and not a few. To depend on a few is also to lose hope in the many. The Boston Center for Lesbians and Gay Men, Inc. was established to provide affordable rental space to all organized or unorganized gay groups in the City of Boston. Our main or primary clients in this collective corporation are none other than these groups and their members. Since we can't be everything to everyone, our priority of service must be first to these people. Non-group members, who incidentally form much of The Center's volunteer base, are vital but must recognize this priority of service. Their "group" is the Center itself.

Ms Wessling's Board should re-think its litany of excuses for explaining the Center's amassing debt. A slow national economy, competition for funds by other local non-profits, their delayed fundraising plan, and a non-political agenda are all plausible, but unpersuasive in explaining a swelling \$20,000 deficit.

A more basic reason is we've cast off without an entire crew. That general crew, which includes: our Group Tenants and their members, the Center and its volunteers, and our community and its contributors can all heave together in heavy weather. there's only one requirement: they must be fully *aboard* ship when underway.

Dennis Esposito
Roxbury, Mass.

\$5 to keep informed

Dear GCN:

Greetings!

This is Kenneth Lee Royal writing from the State Correctional Institution at Graterford. I have been here since February 11, 1990, for Parole violation.

I was receiving your newspapers at the state correctional institution at Dallas before my release Aug 30, 1989.

Please find enclosed a \$5.00 check for payment of your subscription of GCN. I really enjoyed your paper during the last 2 or 3 years I spent at Dallas prison and would now like to receive it here at Graterford. I know your paper is free to prisoners all over the country. But I feel as though I do owe your organization so very much because of the moral and caring support while I was at Dallas Prison.

I've been out of touch with our community, and really need to get back on track.

Sincerely yours,
Kenneth Lee Royal #AY-6879
P.O. Box 244
Graterford, PA, 19426-0244

Thoughts on conference coverage

Dear GCN:

As a white feminist who had occasion at the recent I Am Your Sister conference to focus on the message of Audre Lorde's essay "Eye to Eye," it's been with sadness and a sense of irony that I've watched the acrimonious exchange in GCN about coverage of the event. I

Gay Community News is produced by a collective dedicated to providing coverage of events and news in the interest of gay and lesbian liberation. The collective consists of a paid staff of ten, a general membership of volunteers, and a board of directors elected by the membership.

Opinions reflected in "editorials" represent the views of the paid staff collective. Signed letters and columns represent the views and opinions of the authors only. We encourage all readers to send us comments, criticism, and information, and to volunteer and become members.

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am concerned that white male behind-the-scenes decisions about what merits space and attention in *GCN's* features section may be serving to promote the public conflicts between African-American women taking place in the "margins" (as it were) of the paper's letters pages. I therefore second Barbara Smith's suggestion that *GCN's* features department consider expanding the unaccountably limited amount of space it has devoted to the conference. Such an expansion could take the form either of a comprehensive piece of investigative journalism or a range of commentaries to augment the contribution of Ayofemi Folayan. I applaud Folayan for the piece she wrote about I Am Your Sister—the most recent example of her willingness to take risks in print—and also for the enormous amount of time and energy she volunteered to help make the conference possible in the first place. However, no single personal opinion piece could or should be sufficient to cover an event of such magnitude and significance—especially one whose very purpose was to convene a diverse group to honor a woman who challenges us to face the difficult differences among us.

It's not too late for *GCN* to avail itself of the opportunity conference organizers provided in bringing together so many lesbians from various constituencies too rarely heard from—e.g., Arab women, Indian women, Asian women, latinas from all the Americas, low-income women of all colors. And I know I'm not the only dyke who would like to see a more focused and productive dialogue about the many substantive conflicts, struggles and issues that came up around I Am Your Sister both during its planning stages and at the event itself, some of which were alluded to both in Smith's letter and in the earlier one from Angela Bowen. Folayan had neither the space nor the obligation to delve into all of these when she shared her consciously subjective—and, it should be noted, predominantly favorable—impressions of the conference.

In terms of one major controversy Folayan did tackle head-on: though she may have been technically guilty of sloppy journalism in her account of accessibility problems at the conference, her criticisms and her anger nonetheless echoed the sentiments of many people with disabilities who attended. At the time of the conference, I was temporarily disabled by a knee problem. This meant that attending workshops on the upper floors of the conference site took a considerable amount of effort, and that going to the bathroom was a major undertaking. I can only imagine how women who face similar insults and obstacles every day of their lives must feel when facing them once again at a supposedly inclusive and politically conscious event. The good faith and best intentions of the organizers are not the issue here. Outspoken African-American sisters like Audre Lorde and Barbara Smith have been among the ones to teach us that good intentions don't cut the mustard so long as actual behavior and conditions remain oppressive, and that people who continue to get stepped on have every right and reason to be good-and-loudly pissed off about it and to expect to be heard without defensiveness. As I face the possible implications of a worsening knee condition, I feel tremendous gratitude toward Ayofemi and all other disability activists for every ounce of righteous anger they've expressed over the years—and toward participants in the Black movements of the past several decades for providing them with a model for this struggle for dignity and access.

Sincerely,
Pam Mitchell
Cambridge, Mass.

How about if it was done to us?

Dear *GCN*:

[This is a copy of a letter to my son, I thought you might like to print]

Dear Son,

You ask me why we should not be in Kuwait. Let me explain it this way: Saddam Hussein is an unreflective narrow-minded man who took an asset from his neighboring tribe, or nation if you like, in order to benefit his country. Although this nation has powerful connections, Hussein refused to give this asset back.

As a result of this "leader," his ambition, his pretension and his stubbornness, thousands of young Iraqi soldiers, boys like you, are being burned alive in their trenches.

The bombs have been sent by Bush, acting according to his interpretation of the U.N. resolution, to force Hussein out of this asset. Does Bush consider himself an example of good moral behavior for doing this? Or is he simply doing what he thinks is best, financially, for his country? (He's wrong because he lives

GCN: A community effort

By the *GCN* staff

For almost 18 years, *GCN* has provided the gay and lesbian community with news, information, analysis, and, perhaps most importantly, a forum for the exchange of ideas. This task hasn't always been easy in the diverse and complicated world of lesbians and gay men that we call a "community," but *GCN* has tried to be a place where all voices can be heard.

One key element to *GCN's* success has been the exhaustive commitment of our readers—many of whom have been with us since the days when *GCN* was a mimeographed community newsletter. Our readers don't just take what we give them—they also help shape the format and mission of the paper.

In the past year-and-a-half, *GCN* has been undergoing major organizational restructuring. As the paper grows and changes—broadening our readership base through direct mail, increasing local distribution, welcoming new writers, experimenting with different layouts and designs through desktop publishing—we thought it might be time to describe the ins and outs of *GCN* in 1991.

The day-to-day operations of the newspaper are handled by 10 full-time, paid staff members. The staff, which runs the paper by collective process, meets weekly to discuss issues important to *GCN*, including content, finances, promotional ideas, etc. Every staff member has her or his own set of responsibilities, and while no one is anyone else's "boss," everyone is accountable to the collective.

In addition to the paid staff, *GCN* is supported by a wide range of volunteers. There are many ways to serve as a volunteer at *GCN*. One is by sitting on the Board of Directors, which currently has eight active members. In conjunction with the staff, the Board is the organization's main decision-making body.

in a global economy, but so what?)

Supposing a Larger Power descended on us and decided that Bush was wrong, morally, to use force against Hussein, and this Power asked Bush to desist or risk the blasting of American Armed Forces? Do you think that Bush would agree and surrender his decision? Do you think he would automatically submit to the force of this Larger Power?

And if Bush did not agree with their arguments and refused to submit to them simply because their firepower was superior; if he was stubborn about it, do you think it would be helpful and constructive and generally useful for this Power to burn young men and women alive in their trenches? Would it solve the problem?

This is what we're doing, how about if it was done unto us? Would you be for the war against us?

Your loving mother
Eliza Wyatt
Brookline, Mass.

P.S. Bush wrongly thinks opening oil markets this way will benefit our country. He forgets we live in a global economy. Our government will spend our tax dollars to pay for the war, opening up oil markets for corporations to benefit from. These corporations are now owned by everyone, except increasingly impoverished Americans whose inflation will not allow them to compete with foreign workers whose governments have not had to pay for a war.

HIMA!

Dear *GCN*:

I am writing to inform you of a group which may be of interest to your readers. We are HiMA!; Homosexuals in the Martial Arts. The members of our group range from all different styles and ranks of martial artists, about half of our membership are women.

We initially formed our group during Gay Games III in Vancouver this summer, and have been keeping in contact with each other across the country with an informal newsletter. We have no political agenda; the purpose of our group is to give self-defense seminars in our local communities, to assist people in selecting a martial arts school and to provide a national dialogue for martial artists.

I know that many people read your publication and we would like to reach as many gay and lesbian martial artists as possible. Our most recent concern is the amount of violence directed toward the gay and lesbian community. There has been a lot of talk of guns, bashing back, etc... and we would like to provide an alternative to those options, hence

Out of the Board and staff come Standing Committees, some of which are Personnel, Editorial, and Community Relations. Other volunteers serve with staff and Board members on these committees, which largely determine the organization's policies, priorities, and goals.

There are other important ways in which *GCN* relies heavily on volunteers. Without our proofreaders, data entry people, and cartoonists, there would be no *GCN*. And even if there were a paper, without our Friday night volunteers, no one would ever see it: just come down to the office any Friday evening to witness staff members and tireless volunteers stuffing, sealing and sorting every single newspaper.

One of the most crucial ways volunteers support the paper is by writing. In fact, the majority of the writing in *GCN* is done *not* by our staff reporters, but by our readers. Some of the people who contribute to the paper are professional writers; many are not. Some of our contributors are activists who are tired of being ignored by the mainstream, and sometimes even the gay, press. All of our writers are interested in bringing lively, thoughtful debate to a diverse and complicated community.

Another thing all of our contributors have in common is their dedication—to lesbian and gay liberation and to *GCN*. How do we know this? Because all of our contributors write for free.

And we ask a lot of our writers. Not only do we sadly inform them that we can not offer payment, we ask that they not print their articles in any other publication until after they have appeared in *GCN*. There's a good reason behind this guideline: since *GCN* is a national paper, we must present stories that can't be found anywhere else.

But our policies put us in a bit of a bind. When *GCN* first began, there weren't many other places where one could read about gay and lesbian life. Neither was there a lot of

our desire to outreach to the community. Also being an individualized "sport" as opposed to a team activity, many people who train in the martial arts have little or no contact with other lesbian and gay martial artists. That is another reason for the existence of our group.

Thank you for your time and if you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me.

David Lebovitz
HiMA!

PO Box 590601
San Francisco, CA 94159-0601

Where is the Pen Pal?

Dear *GCN*:

Curiosity may very well inspire some of the readers in *Gay Community News* to participate in a Pen Pal Support program for prisoners for a time or two. But it does not sustain them for long. Once the curiosity is satisfied, the call can rapidly fade away. There are those, however, who become gripped by the need to comfort our gay/lesbian prisoners with new motivation. They build an enduring friendship.

Gay/lesbian prisoners, be it political or otherwise, are perceptive. They quickly sort out those who are do-gooders, those who are slumming, those who use prisoners to satisfy their own psychological needs. There are gay prisoners who want pen pals for friendship, informal conversation and advice. Some may have a legal litigation or monies need. All are legitimate. These brothers and sisters have remarkable talents and abilities. Some are artists who design stationery, draw pictures, do excellent paintings, greeting cards, designs for T-shirts, etc. Some write poetry, construct editorials, design programs for projects and have written various well known books. Thus, neither has to use the other in any negative sense, for these can be mutually established and positive friendships, for the pen pals and the prisoner. Merchandise produced by prisoners can be sold at top dollar, yet many prisoners have little outside contacts and resources.

"To rehabilitate one must be productive." However, many of these special prisoner abilities go completely unnoticed, by organizers, ordinary citizens and governors of various states in our nation. Specific proposals were recently made by state officials (documented) to cut back on spending in the correctional systems. This will immediately effect both education and vocational training programs now offered to "rehabilitate" the vast thousands of prisoners. Meanwhile, correctional officials make a score from the prison industries through labor exploitation.

Our gay/lesbian prisoners are indeed more

competition for lesbian and gay journalists; if you wanted to write for a gay paper, your options were pretty limited. But the gay and lesbian press has grown enormously in the last two decades. Most major cities have at least one local gay paper, if not two or three. Publications from Iowa, Arizona, Georgia, Missouri and other areas outside of New York and San Francisco flood *GCN's* offices each week.

While this is good news for the lesbian and gay rights movement in general, it means that it's becoming more and more difficult to find writers who will write exclusively for one publication—for free. Many involved in *GCN's* long-term planning believe that paying writers will be necessary if the paper wants to continue comprehensive coverage. At present, though, we still face our most persistent constraint: money.

And that's where our readers come in. We're not the *Boston Globe* or the *New York Times*; we don't have mini-vans or 24-hour-a-day writers. Instead, *GCN* is a community-based organization committed to covering as many aspects of gay and lesbian life as possible. It's up to you, our readers, to make sure we live up to that commitment.

Did something you recently read in *GCN* piss you off? Inspire you? Make you laugh? Why not write about it and share your thoughts with the rest of the community? Are you planning to attend an upcoming demonstration, conference or other event you'd like to see covered in the pages of the paper? You can ensure that coverage by volunteering as a *GCN* writer.

Above all, *GCN* should be forum for all of the voices in the diverse lesbian and gay community. And we are a diverse community, with strong passions and differing agendas. But if we can't listen to each other, we can't be sure that anyone will listen to us. There's room for all sorts of views, opinions, ideas and beliefs in *GCN*. Come be a part of it.

oppressed than any other group held within prison walls; used as sex objects, for prostitution, etc. I have witnessed the suffering and disorientation caused by the changes, sleepless nights—filled with sorrow and emotional pain.

One branch of the lesbian and gay task force, an advocacy group, said that gays are seven times more likely to be crime victims (*Newsweek*, March 12, 1990). But, how many times greater is it that gays are victimized in a prison setting? How many thousands of straight prisoners (both young and old) are "turned out" gay and sent back out into society? Yet, many gay/lesbian groups will not accept them. Nor will those groups/publications offer them a pen pal space. Precisely someone with whom he or she can discuss everything, and come to know that "human being" inside. The outsider would be able to see them as a real person and relate to them as a person. To share, this reinforces my own identity as a sweet kind and loving "gay" human being. Since I am speaking out of experience, this is in accord with my own experiences and extensive knowledge of prison life, which is drenched with sexuality, both consensual and coerced.

There is a need to open up to the still suffering gay prisoners like myself. As we repay society for statistics sake, remember, society discriminates "our" gay rights. I wish to thank the staff at *GCN* for their obvious concern and their compassion they've shown me with their prisoner project. My sisters and brothers, you too, are welcome. Write me.

Yours truly,
James Mills 90-C-1291
Box 149, Attica, NY 14011-0149

BLACK HISTORY MONTH ISSUE

Would you like to contribute articles, artwork or ideas for our special Black History Month Issue to be published in February? Maybe you'd like to help coordinate this *GCN* tradition and help make this year's Black History Month Issue our very best ever.

Please call Chris Wittke in Features at (617) 426-4469 to discuss ideas, or drop us a line at *GCN* Features, 62 Berkeley Street, Boston, MA 02116

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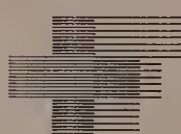
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AMA

Continued from page 1

Hawley said that general practitioners would not be affected by a pro-disclosure policy as much as surgeons, because doctors who are trained in surgical procedures are more likely to be in contact with patients' blood. Therefore, Hawley said, pressure for disclosure would probably create a crisis among specialists. For instance, he continued, "There aren't enough orthopedic surgeons in the D.C. area," and if they are always worried about getting HIV through contact with their patients, "the pressures on them are going to be too much."

Observers agreed that they were especially struck by the AMA/ADA's announcement because of the scarce scientific evidence that the risk of doctor-patient transmission is any more dangerous than other, unregulated problems, such as the risk of doctor-patient transmission of hepatitis-B. Where HIV is concerned, said Hawley, "They simply have no real information."

Unfortunately, said Schatz, the AMA/ADA decision to encourage disclosure does not seem to indicate a minority perspective among physicians in the public positions. "It's indicative of a somewhat pervasive attitude," he said.

—filed from Boston

ACT UP

Continued from page 1

confronting these people," said Cesar Carrasco of the Latino Committee. "I don't know if anyone had pointed to the level of negligence [in Ferrer's administration] before."

Carrasco told GCN that Latino AIDS activists have long been frustrated with Ferrer, who has not been willing to address them. "He wouldn't commit to a meeting," said Carrasco. "He said, 'Stop lecturing me.' We said, 'Fine, Fernando, but you're not saying this just to us, you're saying it to the whole community.' We had him on tape."

Carrasco said he thought activists had a difficult relationship with Ferrer because "he thinks he's a fancy Latino; he thinks he's not a Spic anymore. These people think they're beyond accountability," Carrasco said, "and the Latino community is dying in silence."

ACT UP's Latino committee also stormed the offices of New York's Hispanic AIDS Forum, which activists claim has done "nothing" with its yearly million-dollar budget, and demanded a meeting with the board of directors. Activists say that the board is poorly composed, and lacks any gay, lesbian, or HIV-positive members; they also charge that the Forum is generally out of touch with the Latino community. "It's in SoHo," Carrasco said. "When has SoHo been a Latino neighborhood?"

Although ACT UP members said they were pleased with the day's events, they also remarked that it was still early to guess at what the long-term effects of the action would be. "It just really depends on how people want to run with it," said Goldberg. "We wanted to show people that you can do things. It is possible."

—filed from Boston

Rescue

Continued from page 3

of massive clinic blockades was not effective here," she explained, "because the pro-choice community organized a massive mobilization against them and made sure that the police and the courts did their jobs too."

The case against Operation Rescue began in April 1989 when the Planned Parenthood League of Massachusetts filed a class-action suit against 65 abortion clinic protesters. Planned Parenthood charged that by blockading access to the clinics, Operation Rescue demonstrators violated the civil rights of women seeking abortions and abortion clinic personnel. Other plaintiffs in the suit included MASS NOW, Mass Choice, the Religious Coalition for Abortion Rights, and three abortion clinics, Repro Associates, Preterm, and Crittendon Hastings House.

After the suit was filed, Planned Parenthood attained a preliminary injunction prohibiting Operation Rescue protesters from physically blocking the entrances to the clinics. John Henn, Planned Parenthood's lawyer, told GCN that the plaintiffs are now seeking a permanent injunction to bar demonstrators from blockading the entrances or trespassing within certain areas around the clinics. Henn said that the trial is scheduled to begin March 26, and that the attorney general is a co-plaintiff in the case. This means, Henn explained, that if the suit is successful, the attorney general will be entitled to prosecute criminally any

violations of the injunction.

Henn also told GCN that he has a strong feeling that the SJC will not honor Operation Rescue's request. This is Miley's third attempt to obtain the information, and the request has already been refused by Superior Court Justice Margot Botsford and Appeals Court Justice Rya Dreben. Henn said that at the trial court level, "The judge exercised her discretion to say that whatever relevance the records might have in the suit was outweighed by the constitutional and confidentiality rights of the patients."

In his written statements, Henn argued that there are particularly strong grounds for patient harassment fears, because the clinic records were requested in the name of one Operation Rescue defendant, Robert Delery. Last April Delery was ordered to stop posing as a "clinic escort" during demonstrations.

Delery told GCN that he put on the clinic escort jacket so that he could "get closer to the girls" to tell them about "alternatives to abortion." He also said that the Operation Rescue lawyers used his name to request the patient records, but that the information will serve as defense material for all the demonstrators.

Delery denied that the clinic information will be used to hassle the women. "They're trying to tell us that we're preventing women from getting abortions, and we're saying that we need to know who these women are and to see their records to defend our case," he said. "We want women who have been denied their right to an abortion to come forward and let us know who they are." □

Prisoners

Continued from page 3

recognizes those prisoners who are HIV positive and have full-blown AIDS-related illness. In general, Gagnon said, "We only know that about one in 30 prisoners carry the HIV virus. This means that there is two-thirds of the prison population that we don't know about."

Similarly, Judy Greenspan said that while there have been 7,000 reported cases of AIDS in prisons throughout the country as of November 1990, she believes that this too is a low figure.

Greenspan said that there are similar types of prisoner-initiated AIDS education programs in New York State, but that prisoners there "have run into a lot more red tape." She said that the Massachusetts program is by far the "most sanctioned by prison officials," and that in New York prisons there has to be "a lot of underground activity."

"The fact that Norfolk had a public press conference shows the strength of their AIDS program," said Greenspan. "If the administration didn't support the project, it would have been squelched right away."

On a national scale, Greenspan said she doesn't "foresee any correctional administrations starting this type of program themselves." She explained that, "Prisons operate on control relationships, and often administration officials feel nervous about independent prisoner initiatives."

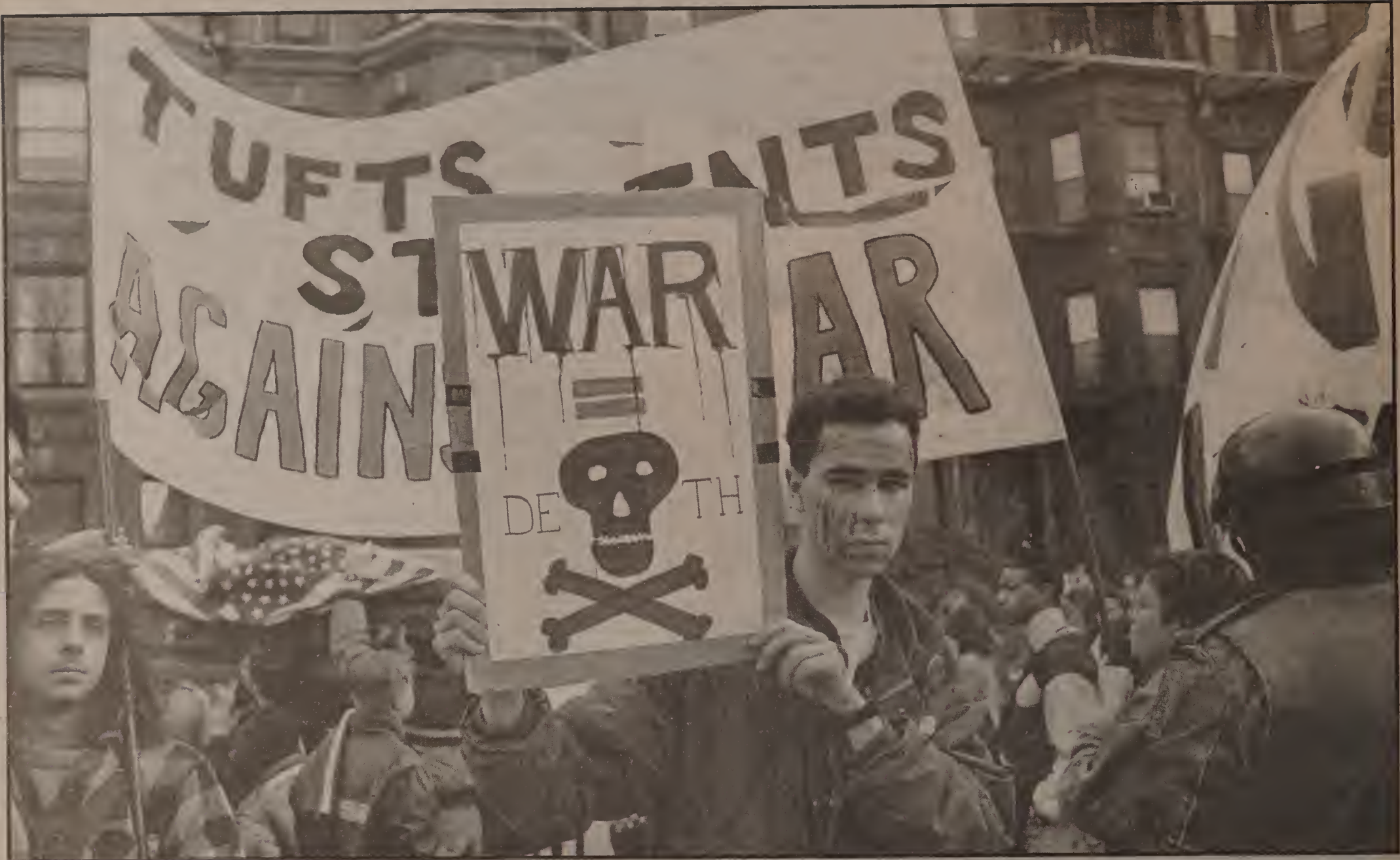
However, Greenspan said she does "see similar programs being started through the influence of outside AIDS and prisoner advocacy groups." She also said that she believes ex-prisoners could play a critical role in setting up these workshops "if they are willing to return to the prisons and help the prisoners to convince the officials and organize the programs."

Doc said that the Norfolk program has been so successful because the instructors have taken the time to work individually with the prisoners, and because many of the prisoners "have a personal experience with AIDS." He explained, "Either they know someone who is HIV positive, or they know someone who has died."

"I saw that the program worked," Doc said, "when I was standing in the line at the prison canteen, and I heard one guy make a joke about another guy at the front of the line who was HIV positive. His friend, who had been through the AIDS workshop, turned to him and said, 'Hey, cool it, that could be you.'" □

Correction

A photographer's credit was inadvertently left out of the Jan. 21-27 edition of GCN. The photo of the Dec. 8 demo in memory of the Montreal Massacre was taken by Jane Cleland. GCN regrets the error.



MARILYN HUMPHRIES

Student demonstrators

Greed and gasoline

Boston City Councillor David Scondras examines the duplicitous behavior of George Bush in setting the stage for War in the Middle East.

By David Scondras

The madness begun by two men, one cruel and stubborn, the other inflexible, hypocritical and impatient, continues. As we have watched the U.S. war on Iraq unfold, many have felt a sense of temporary relief — some feel a relief born of fascination and pride with our technological capacity to destroy with precision and speed. Some feel relief that thus far not many have lost their lives in a war so few understand. But most of us continue to suffer, wondering with a feeling of helplessness how long the madness will continue and how many nations will ultimately be dragged into it.

But we must call for a difficult discipline. We must ask those who are drunk with the excitement of war and those who are concerned but confused, to analyze the causes, identify the costs and assign the culpabilities that surround this war.

There are those who believe that patriots are a breed of missiles made in Massachusetts and who are mesmerized by the dazzling technology of the weapons of the United States. They are wrong. The real patriots are the thousands of young people in the deserts of the Middle East showing the world their determination, courage, love and willingness to defend us with their lives. The real patriots are also the thousands of Americans who stand in solidarity with them showing the world our determination, courage, love and willingness to defend them by calling for an end to the madness of this war.

These patriots have a message for George Bush: "Bring our sisters and brothers, sons and daughters, mothers and fathers home. Mr. President, you have apparently learned nothing from history, and want no one else to remember it. But we remember."

We remember that it was George Bush who, year after year, supported Iraq with \$4.5 billion worth of agricultural credits, knowing

full well that they were being used to buy arms. We remember that George Bush was warned on Feb. 24, 1990, by King Hussein of Jordan and Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak that Saddam Hussein was threatening reprisals against Kuwait. We also remember that Bush's reply was to send his friend Robert Dole on April 12 to meet with Saddam Hussein and to assure him of Bush's support and friendship, this according to transcripts of that meeting.

We also remember that: after it was revealed that 214 Bell helicopters supposedly sold to Iraq for "recreation" were converted to military uses; after Bush knew that the 1985 shipment of the rare West Nile Fever Virus from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control to Iraq ended up as part of Iraq's biological warfare program and infected Israeli military installations; and after George Bush knew of the gassing of Kurds, it was *he* who mounted a successful campaign to defeat the sanctions against Iraq passed by the U.S. Congress on July 27, 1990.

Saddam Hussein told George Bush point blank that he would attack Kuwait because that country's government would not renegotiate its war loan to Saddam for the Iraq/Iran war—and in spite of a warning from the head of the CIA, William H. Webster, five days before the invasion—Bush told Saddam through the testimony of Assistant Secretary of State John Kelly before a House Foreign Relations Subcommittee, that when Saddam attacked Kuwait he would do nothing. The U.S. had "no opinion on the Arab/Arab conflicts like your border disputes with Kuwait," (this from the tape recorded words of Bush's ambassador who spoke directly with Saddam Hussein on the authority of a cablegram from U.S. Secretary of State James Baker.)

It was George Bush who did nothing as German equipment, French Mirage Jets, and Russian military arms were given or sold to Kuwait. On the very night he was explaining why he had sent thousands of troops to the



ELLEN SHUB

Body bag at Government Center desert during his first national address, ABC's *Nightline* news showed viewers missile parts being loaded in Chicago on their way to Saddam Hussein. If Saddam Hussein has chemical, biological, nuclear or even "ordinary" weapons of destruction, it is because George Bush and the same Western allies he corralled into the desert gave them to him. George Bush created Saddam Hussein—we should send Bush to fight the weapons he allowed Hussein to buy and bring our children back home where they belong.

History shows us that this is not the first time. Noriega was on Bush's payroll when Bush was Director of the CIA, and as Vice President, Bush supported Noriega with money and arms. This empowered Noriega to become a dictator, and Bush's solution then, as now, was war. Today, George Bush has his arms around the Dictator Assad of Syria, and we tremble to think where that will lead.

This war is the result of a bankrupt foreign

PHOTOS: Thousands of anti-war demonstrators gathered at several rallies and marches in Boston, Jan. 15-17. Over 3,000 people convened at Government Center rallies, where several people were arrested while attempting to shut down the JFK Federal Building. A twilight demonstration on Boston Common drew over 5,000 people. After this rally, a spontaneous march wound through city streets with activists blocking major arteries along Storrow Drive and the Callahan Tunnel at rush hour. 164 activists were arrested in all. Major teach-ins about the war in the Middle East have occurred regularly at local colleges in the Boston area.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 10

‘The rape of Kuwait’

The misogyny and homophobia at the root of mainstream war coverage

By Michael Bronski

Writing this as the world soars into the sixth day of the U.S. led

war against Iraq, it is startling that there are still almost no reports of casualties. This is perhaps the first war in history, certainly in this century, in which there is no quickly forthcoming body count after massive bombings in several countries. Ironically, yet weirdly right in a sort of metaphoric way, we do hear about Barbara Bush.

The day before the deadline for the start of her husband's war, the First Lady managed to steer her sled into a tree and break her leg. In a script turn that would probably have been rejected by the writers of *Cop Rock*, Barbara was removed from the scene of the accident in the manly arms of Arnold Schwarzenegger, a one-time Mr. Universe, right-wing fund-raiser, and now the head of the President's Council on Physical Fitness. While neither the government nor the newscasters are telling the public how many deaths have occurred in the war so far, we do—in both print and electronic media—receive the occasional cheery notice of Barbara Bush's improving condition.

This, of course, is all mordantly ironic, like something you might find on *Twin Peaks*. But it also underscores how deeply gender differentiated the reporting on the war against Iraq is, and how this language is shaping and controlling popular perceptions and feelings about both the bombings and U.S. policy in general.

War has always been a masculine province. Even when a woman is blamed for war—Helen of Troy, with her tempting and vain beauty, is clearly the prototype here—it has been the men who decide battle plans and who get killed. Over the centuries war has assumed, taken on, a gendered language that by relying on sexual innuendo and insinuation both reflects and justifies sexual stereotypes and hatreds. This war is no different.

Perhaps the most striking, if historically overused, sexual metaphor to be found in news reports every day is that of “rape.” “The rape of little Kuwait,” and “the rape of innocent Kuwait,” are phrases that have appeared in almost every newscast since the invasion of that country by Iraqi troops. And while there have been reports of Kuwaiti women being raped by Iraqi Special Forces, the phrase “The Rape of Kuwait” refers simply to the entree of hostile foreign soldiers. But it is through the image of rape—sexual violation of an innocent, passive, essentially feminine persona—that early news coverage primed the U.S. public (as well as the rest of the world) to accept the upcoming war.

If Kuwait had not been portrayed as “innocent” (in sexual terms that translates as “not trappy or slutty”) or “passive” (unable to defend itself) or “feminine” (not man enough to fight back), there would be little public sympathy for the already set-in-place U.S. policy. Who wouldn't rush to defend an innocent lady in distress?

The use of the rape metaphor is hardly new. It has been used in recent and past history, and always as a nationalistic self-justification; you never heard about the “rape of poor little Panama,” or of “the rape of innocent Grenada,” in the U.S. press. Susan Brownmiller in her 1975 *Against Our Will: Men, Women and Rape*, details the use of the rape metaphor especially in regard to the German invasion of Belgium during the First World War.

To help stir anti-German sentiment, the Allies reported (and turned into nationalistic propaganda) the rapes of Belgian women by German soldiers. The piteous idea of these “helpless” women became so identified with the German invasion that Belgium itself became identified as the victim of rape. The country was represented in countless posters



Government Center anti-war rally

and political cartoons as a beautiful, long-haired woman laying at the brutal feet of the ugly Hun. (The fact that Belgian women were actually raped—as were women of other countries by the Allied troops—was of no interest or concern to the propagandists. War, after all, isn't about women; it's about men.) While it is no surprise then that even in 1991 the metaphor of the rape of an “innocent victim” would once again come to the forefront of the language of war coverage, it might have been nice to see it scrutinized and questioned—even a little—by the public and press.

Of course “rape” is hardly the only gendered and sexualized word being used as a metaphor to discuss the war today. It is common to hear again and again in the same newscast how American or British missiles “penetrated” Baghdad and how much damage they caused.

After a night in which there were no missile attacks on Israel, the Cable News Network anchor asked their Jerusalem bureau reporter how it felt to finally spend a night “unmolested by the sounds of air raid sirens and explosions?” The phallic implications of projectile missiles are obvious enough without the Defense Department and newscasters using language to make it sound like an orgy. Who gets fucked and who does the fucking is of great interest to all concerned here. On one level it makes more obvious the point of who is stronger and who is weaker. But on another level it also reinforces sexual behaviors and stereotypes in our everyday culture and reality. This is something in which those in power also have a great deal of interest.

Perhaps the most obvious is the twisting of the pronunciation of Saddam Hussein's

name. Sometime during the press conferences held this past September, George Bush changed his pronunciation of the Iraqi leader's moniker from “Sa-daam,” (with its stress on the second syllable) to “Sodom” (as in “and Gomorrah.”) Not only does this call up biblical images of the evil, decadent and untrustworthy cities on the plain, but in the past week it has actually taken on a more sexualized, homophobic meaning and intent. Two pro-war demonstrators at a Boston rally last week carried a sign that read “Sadaamy” with a caricature of a missile aimed squarely at a man's buttocks.

In fact, the whole notion of sodomy as the ultimate, humiliating rape overrides all of the sexualized suggestions of Saddam Hussein's name. This clearly pays into age-old, traditional Western fantasies of Eastern sexuality. The Crusaders (a phrase and concept we have, surprisingly, not heard much of this time around) of the Middle Ages brought back tales of the sultan of Egypt and Syria, Saladin, and his predilection for bugging boys. They relied upon accepted Christian responses to these “unnatural acts” to stir up support for the Crusaders' imperialistic and wasteful expeditions. (Ironically, noble Crusade leader Richard the Lion Hearted was a well-known boy buggerer himself; hypocrisy and public relations lies are limited neither by country nor century.)

Interestingly enough, during the first week of actual combat, Bush changed his pronunciation again. This time he shifted to a broad, American flat-land, “Saad-dam” (accent on the first syllable). This suggests

THE TOP FOUR ANTI-WAR SLOGANS AND CHANTS seen and heard at Boston-area peace rallies:*

4. It's a dick thing.

3. Bombing for peace is like fucking for celibacy.

2. Send George Bush,
Send Dan Quayle,
Send Neil Bush
When he gets out of jail.

1. Fags suck dick,
Dykes lick labia,
U.S. out of Saudia Arabla.

THE WORST FOUR PRO-WAR CHANTS heckled at Boston-area peace rallies:*

4. Go to Baghdad.
(Baghdad has replaced Russia in this post-Cold War
“America: Love it or Leave it” chant.)

3. Kill Saddam, Kill Saddam,
Kill Saddam...
(Shouted at top of lungs again and again until eyes glaze over and/or vocal chords give out.)

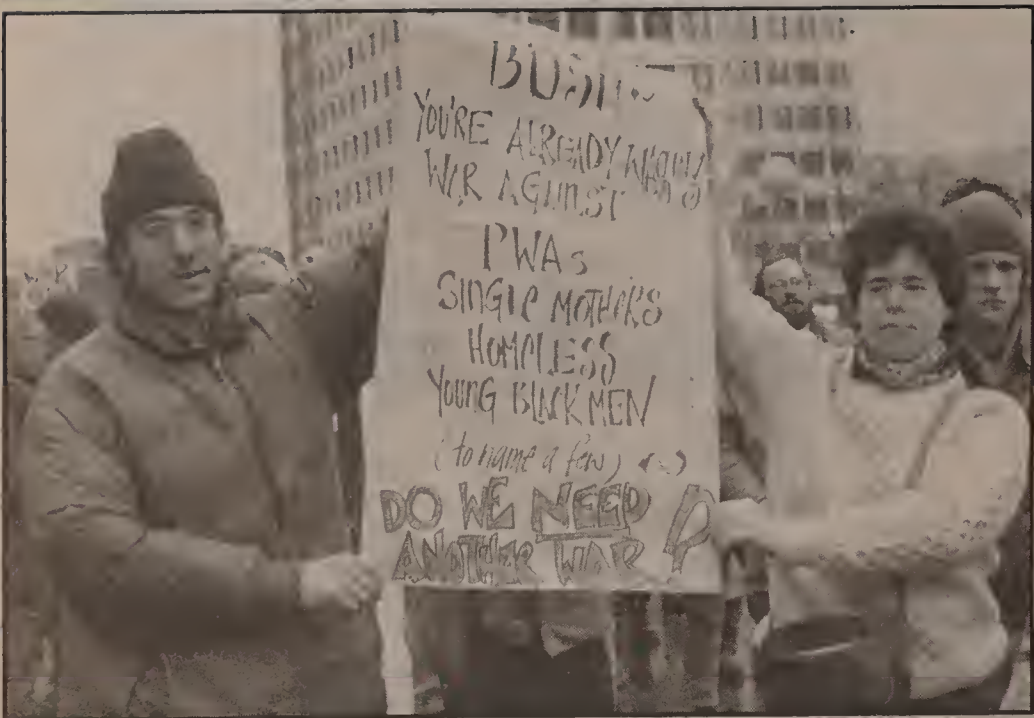
2. No slack for Iraq.
(Note unimaginative meter and rhyme scheme.)

1. Kill Saddam with a nucular bomb.
(Most hawks pronounce “nuclear” as “nucular.”)

-- compiled by C. Wittke

The phallic implications of projectile missiles are obvious enough without the Defense Department and newscasters using language to make it sound like an orgy. Who gets fucked and who does the fucking is of great interest to all concerned.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 11



Scondras

Continued from centerspread

policy that supports dictatorships abroad with money and weapons for short-term gains, ignores human rights violations and injustices, and then tells our children to give their lives to destroy the monsters it creates.

But we remember history, and history remembers George Bush as duplicitous. He originally told Congress that troops were sent to the Middle East to protect Saudi Arabia from attack, but he really sent them to drag the U.S. into a war. Bush told Hussein that he was willing to negotiate until Jan. 15, 1991, but he was never willing to negotiate. Bush said that economic sanctions against Iraq were not working. But every person who went to Iraq, including Bush's own experts, told him that sanctions had stopped 97 percent of Iraq's oil from being sold. They also reminded him that throughout the history of sanctions, the average time they need to work has been 19 months. Bush knew that sanctions were working and he knew that they needed far more than the five months he allotted for them to get the job done.

George Bush has also told us repeatedly that this war is to restore "the legitimate government of Kuwait." Of course, a legitimate government in Kuwait would be a government that derived its powers from the consent of the governed. The United States President cannot call the restoration of a monarchy a legitimate anything. A U.S. President should support the people of Kuwait determining who their leaders will be.

In speech after speech, George Bush has told the world that this war is not about oil. That is a lie. If Kuwait exported bananas, he would have sent a telegram, not troops.

Later, Bush said that this war is about protecting the world's supply of oil. Yet those countries that use the most of that oil, Japan and the European countries, were the most unwilling to arrive in the desert, the least in number to arrive in the desert, and the last to agree to war. Those countries have had to be dragged kicking and screaming to even bear the slightest part of the financial burden of the entire venture.

If George Bush were really worried about oil, he would have supported the effort to mandate cars that get 40 miles per gallon. If he were really worried about oil, he would have spent the \$100 million a day this war has cost on insulating the homes of Chicago, San Francisco, New York and Boston, not bombing the bunkers and homes of Baghdad.

If he were really worried about oil, he would have begun a war against wasting it, financed recycling and water conservation, 15 watt lightbulbs and flow restrictors, not a war to win control of Kuwait. If oil were really a vital national interest, he would have had an energy policy based on national defense to make the United States self-reliant, independent of the oil in the Middle East. If oil were really so important that its supply is worth a war, then the failure to conserve would be an act of treason. George Bush is not concerned with U.S. dependence on oil, he is concerned with who controls the profits made from selling that oil.

George Bush finally says that this war is to create the dream of a "new world order." Those of us who remember history know that phrase was the central theme of Adolf Hitler's book *Mein Kampf*, and shudder at Bush's insensitivity. Bush gives us the same old world order, in which the end justifies the means, might makes right, and the working people and poor of the world are made to pay to protect the privileged of the world. None of the people fighting on either side of this

war owns an oil company or lives in a palace, and we are all sick of the leaders that make us suffer to protect their powers and the privileges of their economic elite status.

Bush says repeatedly that this war will not be another Vietnam, but it is already another Vietnam. Vietnam was the outrage, the helplessness and the fear we all felt as we drifted, out of control, to war. Bush acts as if the only problem with Vietnam was that it went too long. The problem with Vietnam was that it was wrong, just as this war is wrong.

This war is wrong because: the U.S. has have not been attacked, national security is not at stake; it is about control of oil, not about democracy or human rights; it is bleeding the U.S. of the money desperately needed to house homeless people, feed hungry people, and to cure sick people; it is creating a war on America that is killing the U.S. citizens most in need of those U.S. dollars.

How did we come to this sorry place that divides the country and brings pain to every heart? Over thirty years ago, Dwight Eisenhower—a career military man who knew the U.S. military system as no other and the Republican President of the United States from 1953-1960—was a most unlikely prophet. He warned in his farewell address "of the acquisition of unwarranted influence, whether sought or unsought, by the military-industrial complex."

Today, U.S. citizens have inherited the failure of our leaders to curb that machine of war. There is now a standing volunteer army of over 1.5 million people to keep controversy to a minimum. This army is disproportionately filled with people who are poor and people of color who might otherwise find themselves facing dead-end jobs and discrimination. This army is supplied by an array of companies addicted to an ever-increasing supply of war dollars. It is a huge complex that produces no food, no housing, no health care, no bridges, no schools, but that bleeds every taxpayer and that desperately needs enemies to keep the reason for its existence alive.

As long as this continues, we will never see an end to the history of war. The weapons of war are addictive, and they are produced by the war industries around the world and sold to every nation that cannot produce them. This creates the conditions for an endless series of wars; and it will not be until the drunk awaken from this latest war binge that the true scale of what they have done, and the cost of their addiction, will become clear.

We who oppose this war also have a dream, not of a new world order, but of a new national leader. We dream of: a leader who creates a family of nations, a family that no longer has leaders wanting to wage wars to win peace, a leader who knows war can be replaced by the tool of economic persuasion, reflecting the reality that the modern world is increasingly interdependent and that no nation can long afford to ignore the world's decision to isolate economically.

This will have to be a leader who stands up for self-determination, democracy; not a leader who supplies dictators with money and weapons and technology. This will be a national leader who puts an end to the endless cycle of Friend Today/ Devil Tomorrow. This will be a new world leader who pays as much attention to the injustices of the invasions of Chad and Timao as to the invasions of countries that are rich. A new world leader who agrees to ban weapons of mass destruction, does not allow weapons of war to be sold without universal consent, who pays attention to the needs of all the people, not just the powerful and the

Continued on page 11

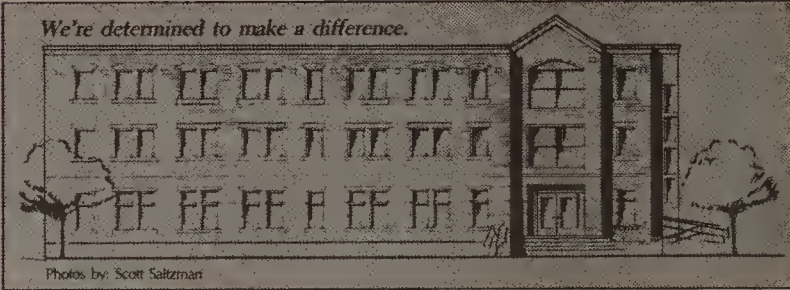
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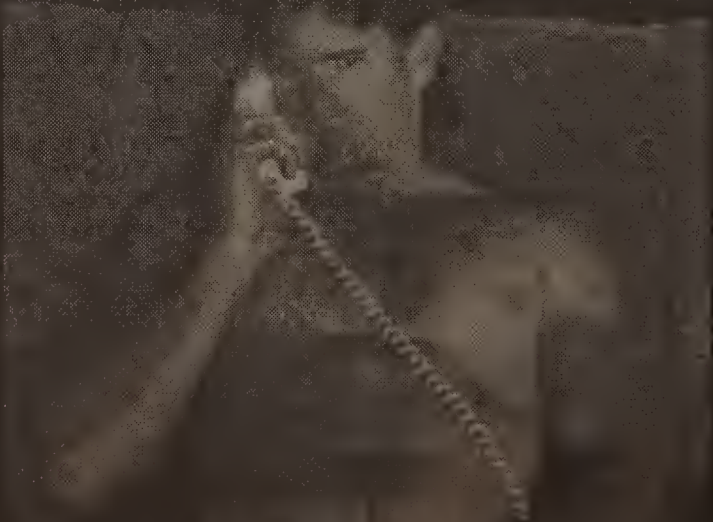
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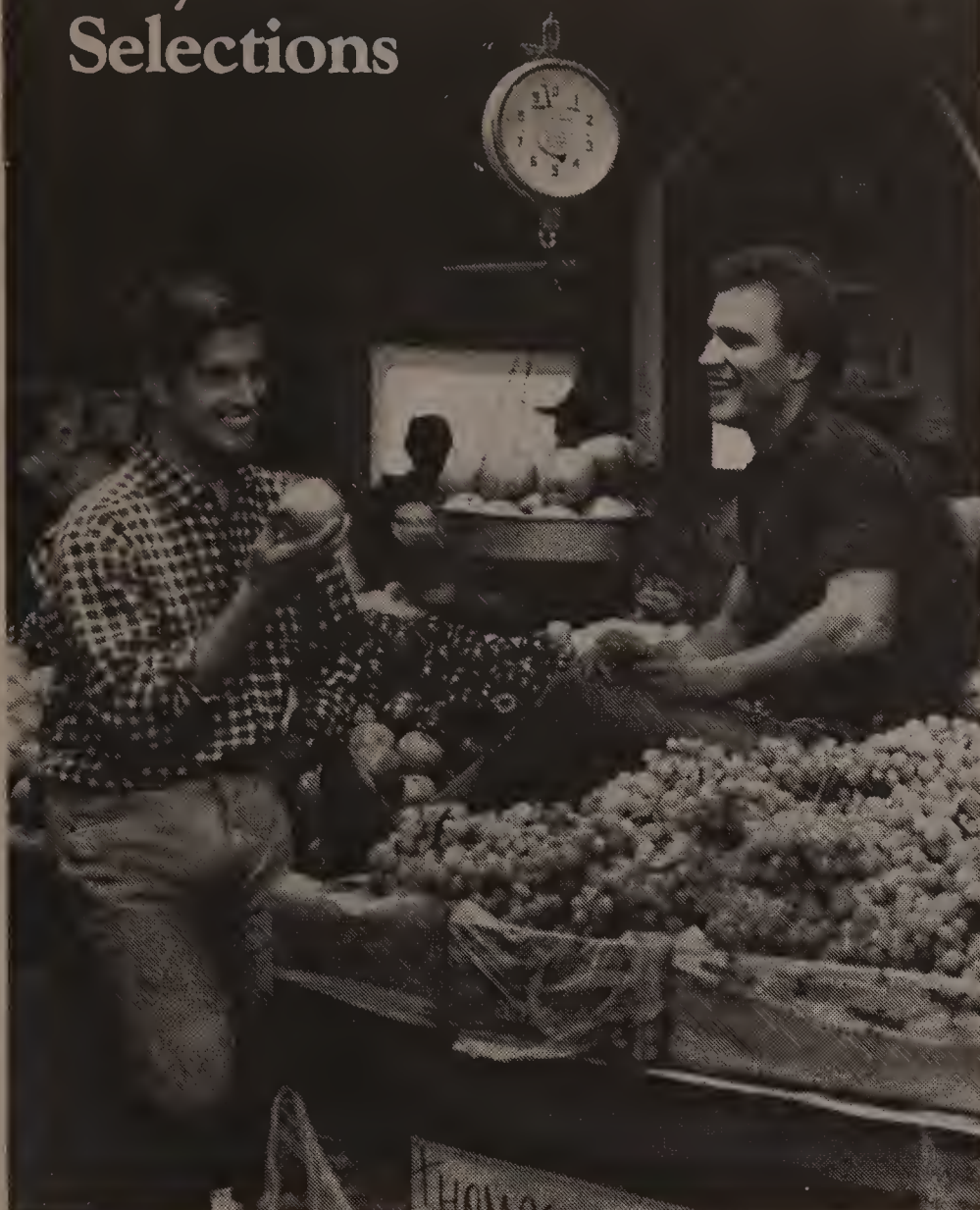
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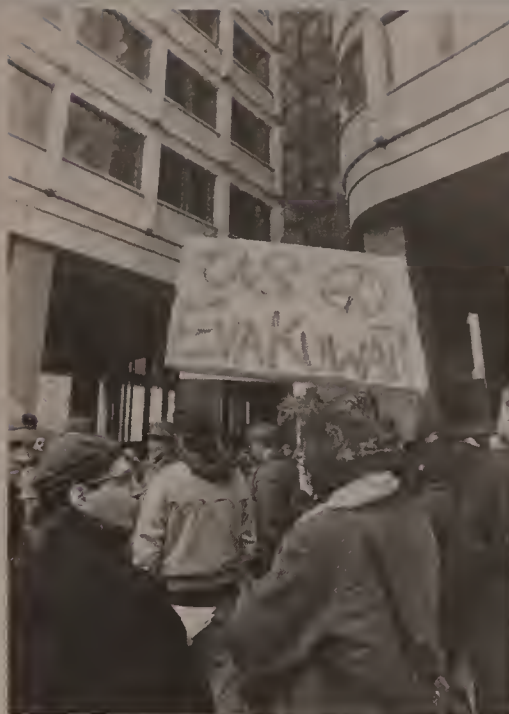


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Demonstrators at Government Center

Bronski

Continued from centerspread

less the soon-to-be-destroyed by fire-and-brimstone city than the prince of darkness himself: Satan. And you thought that "jihads," holy wars, were declared only by Muslims.

It is worth noting that while the metaphors being used to describe this war are all similar, they each have important singular implications and nuances. They are protean; their meanings change depending upon situation and intent. Hussein has "sodomized" Kuwait—an unnatural act, "rape," associated with a corrupt Middle Eastern sexuality not unlike that described by the Crusaders. Hussein's shelling of Israel is only a "molestation"—something more than copping a feel on a bus but less than a violent physical assault. The incessant, continual bombing of Baghdad by the U.S.—which is causing at least as much pain, suffering, disease and death as that experienced by Kuwait since the Iraqi invasion, a fact completely blacked out of the media by the U.S. government—are healthy, normal "penetrations."

Part of this sexualized, linguistic usage might be explained by the self-evident Freudian symbolism with which men have always imbued military life and doings. But it is a mistake to view such usage in a purely psychological vein—of course men in power act out their dick fantasies, but that is only the most superficial level here. The sexualization and gendering of war language is a way not only to shape but control a heterosexual, misogynist and racist view of the world. These metaphors and images are based on culturally induced primal fears and anxieties to which people respond on non-intellectual, even covertly emotional levels.

This language of war is not really anything new. But what is interesting this time around is that the U.S. armed forces are in a unique historical situation with an invading army comprising both fighting men and fighting women. While these women are not in combat positions—or, wouldn't you know it, eligible for combat pay—they are in the popular imagination part of "our fighting men."

It was particularly amusing, especially in the early part of the invasion, to hear newscasters stumbling and then slowly learning how to say "the men and women overseas." The very idea of so many women in such positions (at great risk when ground fighting breaks out) is such a new one that its linguistic conception is still somewhat problematic. It is the presence of these women that make the ubiquitous nature of such overriding male-oriented, sexualized and gendered terminology so starkly evident.

It is one thing for men to speak metaphorically about "rape" and "penetration" since these terms are rarely used about men, but it will be curious to see how and if this language will change now that actual women are involved in occupying armed force. Placing so many women in such a dangerous situation will surely have an affect—not only on social and military policy—but also the world, phrased and metaphors used (by the Right and the Left) to describe those situations. Perhaps we will see changes in anti-war language and slogans, maybe even the obvious rejoinder to the sexism of the popular '60s draft-resistance button: "Girls Say Yes to Girls Who Say NO!"

This is the first in a series of articles by Michael Bronski examining the sexual and political implications of the militarization of language.

Scondras

Continued from page 10

privileged.

We need of a President who first spends money here at home on health care, education, housing and the environment. Who frees that money from the addictive military spending that is destroying our ability to take care of ourselves. A President who fights to end apartheid in South Africa; who stops funding the oppressive government of El Salvador; who persuades the very monarchies that today are called "our allies" in the Gulf to treat women with the respect they deserve; who fights to end social apartheid against gay and lesbian people here in the U.S.; who fights to end racism and poverty; and who listens to her people.

I do not believe that Americans want to be the terror of the world. I believe Americans want to be an example for others to follow. George Bush could become that new world leader by putting an end to the madness of this war before it widens and lengthens and drinks the blood of our children and mixes it with the oil of the desert, all in the name of greed and gasoline. □

The preceeding article is based on a speech delivered by the author at an anti-war demonstration on the Boston Common, Jan. 19.

INFORMATION

NATIONAL

**National Campaign for
Peace in the Middle East
(N.Y.) (212) 227-0221**

**White House Comment
Line (D.C.) (202) 456-1111
To register your opinions
about the war**

**Capitol Switchboard (D.C.)
(202) 224-2181
To contact congressional
representatives and
senators
(or call their local offices
in your area)**

BOSTON AREA

**Urgent Action Hotline
(617) 868-1867
For recorded info about
demonstrations,
teach-ins, etc.**

**American Friends Service
Committee (617) 661-6130
For the latest info about
demos and ongoing events
in the Boston area and
Eastern Mass., draft
counseling, etc.**

**Emergency Coalition for
Peace in the Middle East
(617) 661-8066**

Military

Continued from backpage

vets who had served in the Gulf War and had come to demand from the President their rewards for answering his call to arms.

Just as President Truman ordered integration of the ranks in 1948, Bush may have no choice but to order that 1332.14 be rescinded. And it would be a multi-layered irony if this dirty and dishonorable war resulted in a great political victory for gay and lesbian servicepeople, whose closets have been declared essential to their survival in the military. □

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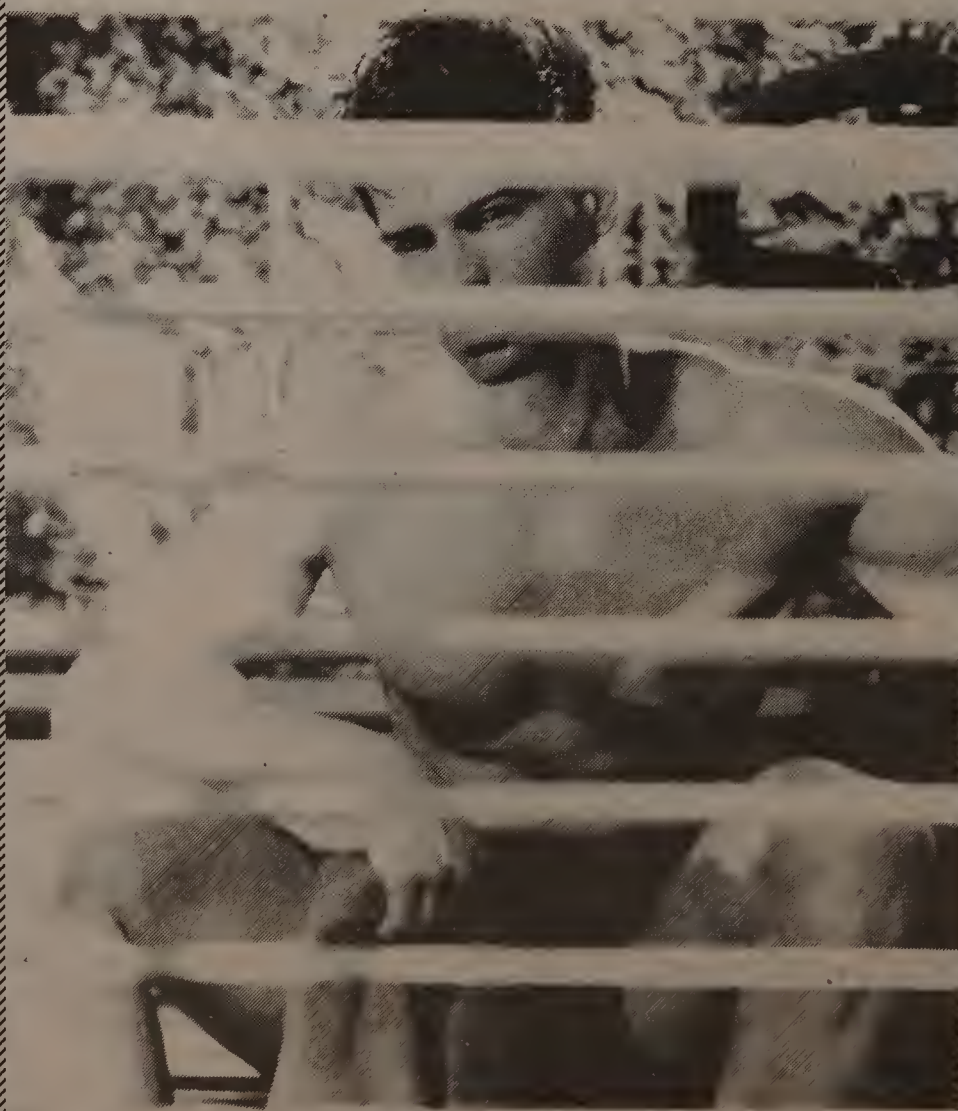
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JLF seeks LF or GM to share cozy apt in JP. Next to JP Licks, Pond, T. Porch is in treetops! Independent, communicative, friendly. Fredi 524-4252

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SOMERVILLE

2 LF and cat seeks roommate for large, sunny apt. near Davis sq. Friendly, independent. Available Jan. 15 or Feb. 1. \$325 + 776-4955 (26)

GM & Blk lab seek GM to share Wollasten beach (Quincy) sunny, spacious, safe apt. on beach, short walk to T. Many xtras \$350/mo +1/2util smoke OK 617-770-1197 (29)

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JAMAICA PLAIN

GM seeks roomate spacious sunny 2 bdr. apartment second floor. I'm 38 petfree smokefree \$400 incl. heat w/d call 524-0095 Mac (26)

2JLF and 1 JF, 12 stepper, seeking woman for spacious warm vegetarian Davis Square home, washer/dryer. No smoking, drugs, pets. Minimal alcohol. \$320+. Available now. 629-4437 (26)

JAMAICA PLAIN

4 GM (28-30) seek roommate for spacious house near forrest hills T. \$240+ call 524-8682 or 482 2440 or 524 6772 (26)

ASHMONT AREA

L seeks 2 rrmnts 25+ 3 BR apt safe quiet nr T shr L DR K den W/D hav cats 325+ ht + util 265-7220 aft 6:30 (27)

SOMERVILLE/TEELE SQUARE

LF seeks L for sunny, spacious 5 rm. apartment. Porches, close to Davis Sq. T. No smoke, pets, drugs. \$275/mo. plus sec. Call 628-3216. (23)

WATERTOWN SQUARE

2 lesbians & cat seek LF or GM for large 3 floor apt. Off street parking. Alcohol & chem free. Steps to buses, 10 min to Harvard Sq. Avail. now. 300+- 923-4370. (23)

JAMAICA PLAIN

LF seeks BIF or LF to share sunny JP Apt. \$388 incl utilities. Pets are OK. 522-0663. Feb. 1 or March 1.

STEPS TO THE REDLINE

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DORCHESTER

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DORCHESTER

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ROOMMATE WANTED

M/F needed to share independent Jamaica Plain household with 2 L's and 1 GM in mid-twenties. Third floor apt., secure, with washing machine and porch. 5 minute walk to green line and #39 bus, and close to orange line. Small market directly accross the street. Prefer nonsmoker. No cats or dogs. Please be responsible and reasonably tidy. Rent is \$212.50 plus utilities.. Available January 1st. Call Laura 524-7794.and leave message, or try days.

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Lonely gay man doing hard time with no one outside to write to. I need penpals for friendship and more. I like all kinds of books and music. I'll answer all who write. Larry Lyndz, #101302, Union Correctional Institution. PO. Box 221-20-237, Raiford, FL, 32083

Bisexual male, would like to meet a kind, lovable gay man for an everlasting relationship. No games please. Chris Wise, #103247, Martin Correctional Institution, 1150 Allapattah Rd., Indian Town, FL, 34956-4397

How do I catch your eye out of all of these ads? I'm not really sure, but here goes: Gay male, auburn hair and green eyes, seeking new friends. My ambitions include sincerity, honesty, intimacy. Write Bill Yapel, C-29719, P.O. Box 8101 - 7310, San Luis Obispo, CA, 93409

Bi at age 12, now 50, Looking for open-minded pen friend. Age no problem, will respond to all that are bi or gay. Robert H. Voss, 186762, 2400 S. Sheridan Rd., Muskegon, MI 49442-6298. (Can receive mail from prisoners)

Black male, love to write hot letters, so let me hear from some of you hot girls out there, and the the ones that are locked up too. All letters will get a letter. Titus Young, #432731, P.O. Box 4400, Huges Unit, Gatesville, TX, 71528

Gay American Sioux Indian, would like very much to correspond with sincere gay males on the outside. Enjoy baseball, football, reading and Indian culture. I would like a true friend/possilble lover. Troy C. Smith, #15689, Box 30, Pendleton, Indiana, 46064

Gay Egyptian male, serving a short sentence in America. I'm lonely for a friend, affectionate, sincere, caring. I'm a vegetarian, karate expert, environmentalist into books, yoga, jogging, chess. Eric nelson, #892442, P.O. box 41, Michigan City, Indiana, 46360

Black male, interested in writing TV/TS in the free world who are looking for a friend to exchange interests, experiences and a pic. Can't write other prisoners. Marvin "Shala" Wright, #03800-054, P.O. Box 1000, Lewisburg, PA 17837

Gay male, blue eyes, enjoys art and poetry. I'm lonely and have no family support. Send photo, will return a photo. Jamey Stewart, #39737, 3D-5, 1012 W. Columbia, Farmington, MO 63640

Lonely gay prisoner desires correspondence with sincere gay man. Outdoor type, enjoys swimming, sailing, skiing. R. Alan Watts, #837914, A-111, 500 Orange Ave., Belle Glade, Fl 33430

If you are the Conell from Michigan who answered the Teddy Bear ad about Darren in PA, will you please write and tell me your address! Darren Combs, AK7403, Drawer K, Dallas, PA 18612-0286

Prisoner Project Friends: Sorry it took so long. We're a bit behind, but catching up now!! Best wishes to all.

ORGANIZATIONS

BOSTON ALLIANCE OF GAY AND LESBIAN YOUTH

Social support group for youth 22 and under. Wed. night general meeting from 7:30-9pm. New persons meeting at 6:00. Women's meeting at 6:45. Call 1-800-42-BAGLY for info.(15.32)

OLDER LESBIAN ENERGY

Social and support group for women over 40. P.O. Box 1214, East Arlington, MA 02174.(15.48)

BLACK AND WHITE MEN TOGETHER

Multiracial group for all people. Call (415) 431-1976 or write BWMT, suite 140, 584 Castro St. SF, CA, 94114. (16.1)

MAN/BOY LOVE

Intergenerational Love Support Group. World wide news, art, opinions. Application, information free. Bulletin \$1.00 NAMBLA, P.O. Box 174, New York, NY 10018(7)

"TO ALL THOSE IN AND OUT OF PRISON, WHO FIGHT AGAINST THEIR BONDAGE"

Alexander Berkman,

Prison Memoirs of an Anarchist

Women Seeking Friends



35 year old lesbian, would like to correspond with someone warm, sincere and understanding. I'm a loner and would appreciate someone honest and willing to be a true friend and/or more. Hobbies include poetry, writing, reading and sports. I love music of all kinds. Laverne Jackson, C160130, #83, Broward Correctional Institution, P.O. Box 8540, Pembroke Pines, Fla, 33024

I'm known as Roxanne, young, lonely and seriously in need of friends, Would you please write Sandra Baldwin, #161034, P.O. Box 8540, #371, Pembroke Pines, Fla, 33024

Dominant Black woman, seeking feminine women for correspondence, B.K.A. Heavy D- Get with me, Deborah Leach, #905-363 P.O. Box 535, Jessup, MD 20794

Latina woman, libra, I've been here for five years already and have two more to go. I'd love to write, and maybe you'd like to hear what I have to say. Janet Pillot, #11595, Drawer E, North Hall,Clinton, NJ 08809



Gay male, serious person looking for serious relationship, Write J.R. Franklin, Jr. P.O. Box, 215, Maury, NC 28554

Gay male, red hair and blue eyes, looking for fun and friends. I've 8 months left, and will answer all who write (can't write other prisoners, sorry) I'm recovering alcoholic and addict. I like good reading, rock and roll, football, and debating everything! Speak Spanish and French. Michael Wethered, 04445-045, P.O. Box 33, Unit 1-C, Terre Haute, Indiana, 47808

Gay male, doing 53 years in CA, seeks pen pals for lasting friendship and support. I can't receive or write to other prisoners, All other letters answered. Larry Percival, E-43835, P.O. Box 7500, A-4-224, Crescent City, CA, 95532-7500

Gay man seeks hot letters from she males and queens, for fun and possible relationship, Shawn Osborn, #60550, Arizona State Prison, 10,000 S. Wimal Rd. Tucson, AZ 85777

Seeking gay men to write to and trade "pictures" with. I'm into horse back riding, reading, sci-fi and fantasy, waterskiing. Write Frank "IT" Patterson P.O. Box 400, #13216, Rawlins, WY, 82301

Bi male looking for gay friendship that may turn into a relationship when I get out of here (fondness for TV/TS). I enjoy poetry, music, martial arts, outdoors, collecting photographs. I can't write other prisoners but will write anyone else who writes. Joseph Hopper, P.O. Box 78426, Florence, AZ 85232

Gay male, 30, HIV+, seeking other gay males, any race, who are HIV+. I'm in need of a big brother - someone I can talk to and someone who cares and understands what I am going through. I will answer all letters. Timonthy Manus, #85-A-8326, P.O. Box #367-A, Dannemora, NY, 12929

Mixed Black and white gay male, business-minded, enjoys making money, traveling, finer things in life. Looking for mature, open-minded person. Age, sex, race not important. Lewis McClendon, # PO. Box 740, M.A.C.I., London, OH 43140.

CABLE

Medford ♦ "Significant Others: Dances for Family, Friends, and Lovers." An evening of dances. Tufts U. Cousens Dance Space, College Ave. \$11. Info and reservations: 350-6184. (I) Photo by Paul Ruseski

Calendar listings must be received by the Monday before the week of the event. Photos encouraged. Please specify if event is or is not wheelchair accessible and/or sign language interpreted. Please use our format as a guide for listings. All listings must be typed. Please note that listings are printed only as space allows; we regret that we cannot print every submission. No phone calls, please!

26 SATURDAY

Boston ♦ Feminist/Lesbian Alumnae of Smith College Party. Lv. msg. to request inv.: 524-7667 or 325-3770.

Washington, DC ♦ L/G/B March Against War In the Gulf. 11 a.m. Meet on front steps of the Supreme Court. Bring signs and banners.

Cambridge ♦ DOB Lesbian Couples' Night. 7 p.m. Old Camb. Baptist Church, 1151 Mass. Ave. \$1. 661-3633.

Boston ♦ Marcia Deihl & Friends: "Still Ain't Satisfied! Political Songs of the '70's for the '90's." 8 p.m. Women's Coffeehouse at the Center, 338 Newbury St. \$5. 247-2927.

Cambridge ♦ Diane Ponzio. Indigo, 823 Main St. 8 p.m. Tickets \$6.50 through Ticketron, or call 720-3434.

Jamaica Plain ♦ L/G Contra/Square Dancing. Smoke / drug free. 8 to 11 p.m.; beginners' lessons 7:30 p.m. First Church of J.P., corner Centre and Eliot Sts. Band: Nantucket Sound. \$6. Info and directions: Janet 522-2216, Phil 729-9206, or Scott 536-2014.

Northampton ♦ Umoja Ensemble. To benefit F.L.O.W.E.R. Northampton Ctr. for the Arts. 8 p.m. Tickets \$8 to \$14. Chem free. For womyn. (413) 586-2473.

27 SUNDAY

Boston ♦ AMALGM Monthly Men's Mtg. (AMALGM = Assoc. of Mass. Asian Lesbians and Gay Men.) Last Sunday each month. The Center, 338 Newbury St., room 202K. 247-2927.

Boston ♦ Dykes' Dialogue: Coming Out -- Political or Personal. 4 p.m. The Center, 338 Newbury St. Info 247-2927.

Cambridge ♦ DOB (Daughters of Bilitis) Birthday Party. Lesbians invited! 7 to 9 p.m. Indigo, 823 Main St. \$2. 661-3633.

28 MONDAY

Boston ♦ Intro to Boston for GML. Boston Ctr. for Adult Educ. 6 to 8 p.m. \$21. BCAA 267-4430.

Cambridge ♦ Lesbian Rap: Night Out. Call for info. Women's Ctr., 46 Pleasant St. 354-8807.

29 TUESDAY

Cambridge ♦ 30+ Lesbian Rap: Lesbian Sex Secrets. 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Women's Ctr., 46 Pleasant St. 354-8807.

Cambridge ♦ Auditions for a "bawdy, political, physical comedy production." Circus skills a plus. Bring a funny song. 7 to 10 p.m. Kressgee rehearsal rm. B, MIT. 350-6184.

Cambridge ♦ MIT Queer Movies Series: "Framed Youth -- Revenge of the Teenage Perverts," "Sleepin' Round," and "Beyond Gravity." Screenings 7 and 9 p.m. Room 66-110 (25 Ames St.), MIT. Fourth in four-week series. 253-3599.

Cambridge ♦ Bisexual Woman's Rap: "2 in 20" Film Showing with Potluck. 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. Women's Ctr., 46 Pleasant St. 354-8807.

Cambridge ♦ DOB Forum: Lawyer Barbara Massey Discusses Legal Issues Affecting Lesbians. 8 p.m. Old Camb. Baptist Church, 1151 Mass. Ave. \$1. 661-3633.

30 WEDNESDAY

Boston ♦ Greater Boston Business Council: Marketing to Boston's Gay Community. With Jim Hoover, publisher of Bay Windows. The Center, 338 Newbury St., 2nd flr. Social hr. 6 to 7 p.m., program 7 to 8 p.m. \$7. 695-1634.

Boston ♦ Mass. G/L Political Caucus Annual Mtg. 7 p.m. The Center, 338 Newbury St.

N. Dartmouth ♦ SMU G/L Alliance Resource Fair. Designed to introduce G/LB and supporters to orgs. serving us in southeastern New England. 7 p.m. SMU Commuter Cafeteria in the Campus Center. Use Parking Lot #5. SMUGLA (508) 999-8163.

Salem ♦ NSGLA Panel Discussion on L/G Activism. 7 to 9:30 p.m. in Screening Room, Meier Hall, Salem State Coll., 352 Lafayette St. 7 to 9:30 p.m. (508) 745-3848.

Springfield ♦ Springfield Coll. Gayness / Oppression / Homophobia Seminar Series: Turning Points in Gay History. 7 p.m. Locklin Hall Room 233, Springfield Coll. campus. James Genasci (413) 788-3221.

Boston ♦ Dykes' Review: "The Bluest Eye," by Toni Morrison. 8 p.m. The Center, 338 Newbury St. 247-

2927.

Cambridge ♦ "Homophobia" Viewing. A video produced by Cambridge Women in Cable. 8:30 to 10 p.m. Women's Ctr., 46 Pleasant St. 354-8807.

31 THURSDAY

Cambridge ♦ Drop In At DOB Coffee Bar. 7 to 9:30 p.m. Old Camb. Baptist Church, 1151 Mass. Ave. \$1. 661-3633.

FEBRUARY 1 FRIDAY

Cambridge ♦ Lesbians Age 50+/- Meet. 8 p.m. Old Camb. Baptist Church, 1151 Mass. Ave. \$1. 661-3633.

Boston ♦ Friday Night at the Movies: "Gentlemen Prefer Blondes." 8:05 p.m. The Center, 338 Newbury St., rm. 203. \$2.

Cambridge ♦ L/G/B Swing & Ballroom Dance: a '50's sock-hop w/ music by the Swinging Suedines. Costumes encouraged. 8:15 p.m. to midnight. Jitterbug lesson 8:15 to 9 p.m. \$5. Old Camb. Baptist Church, Harvard Sq. 661-1792.

Cambridge ♦ Swingtime Sock Hop. 8:15 to midnight. 1151 Mass. Ave. (Harvard T). Basic swing lesson 8:15 to 9 p.m. \$5. 661-1792.

3 SUNDAY

Dorchester ♦ Dorchester GALA Monthly Potluck. Steve R.'s home. Info: Hotline 825-3737 or Barry 288-1847.

Newburyport ♦ NSGLA Skating Party at Bartlett Mall. 1 to 3 p.m. (508) 745-3848.

Boston ♦ Dykes' Dialogue: Lesbian Parenting. 4 p.m. The Center, 338 Newbury St. Info 247-2927.

Boston ♦ Triangle Theatre Co. Benefit Open House/Cabaret. New England's only professional theatre devoted to g/l-themed plays is in a financial crunch. Support them by attending and donating a minimum of \$15. Champagne and hors d'oeuvres. 6 to 8 p.m. 58 Berkeley. Reservations: 426-3550.

4 MONDAY

Amherst ♦ Kaleidoscope: A Group for Older L/G/B and Friends. Monthly mtg. 6:30 to 9 p.m. Bangs Comm. Ctr., Boltwood Walk. Info: Corrie (413) 525-2188, Warren (413) 586-4277, or Dave (413) 773-3092.

Newton ♦ Lesbian School Teachers / Administrators Potluck. 6:30 p.m. Info and directions: 876-5657.

5 TUESDAY

Boston ♦ Gay Fathers of Greater Boston: Male Spouses of Gay Fathers. 8 p.m. Lindemann Ctr, 25 Staniford St., 2nd flr. Revere Rm. 742-7897.

Cambridge ♦ "Out of Bounds: A Lesbian Journey." Multimedia presentation. 8 p.m. Radcliffe Coll. Agassiz Hs. Theater, 10 Garden St. ASL interpreted; wheelchair accessible. Reception follows. 495-9199.

6 WEDNESDAY

Cambridge ♦ "Visible For a Change: Contemporary Lesbian Artists USA." Slide-show installation. Radcliffe Coll. Lyman Common Rm., Radcliffe Yd., 10 Garden St. 2/6 through 3/3, noon to 10 p.m. every day. 495-9199.

Boston ♦ Names Project / Boston General Mtg. 7 p.m. Piemonte Room, City Hall (use Congress Street entrance). 451-9003.

8 FRIDAY

Boston ♦ AIDS Mastery Workshop. Northern Lights Alternatives. 423-3035.

Boston ♦ John Gilgun Reads from "Music I Never Dreamed Of," a novel of a young man coming out in Boston in the '50's. Amethyst Press. 7 p.m. Glad Day Bookshop, 673 Boylston, 2nd fl. 267-3010.

Dorchester ♦ Lesbian Lawyers and Legal Workers Valentine's Mtg. 7 p.m. Carol 483-3685.

Medford ♦ "Significant Others: Dances for Family, Friends, and Lovers." An evening of dances. Tufts U. Cousens Dance Space, College Ave. \$11. Info and reservations: 350-6184.

Boston ♦ Friday Night at the Movies: "Casablanca." 8:05 p.m. The Center, 338 Newbury St., rm. 203. \$2.

SUNDAYS

Boston ♦ Different Strokes Swim Team. Coached workouts for swimmers of all abilities. Noon at Boston City Hosp. swimming pool. Info: Ed 767-0449.

Boston ♦ BAGLY Drop-In Center. (BAGLY = Boston Alliance of G/L Youth.) St. John the Evangelist Church, 35 Bowdoin. Info: (800) 428BAGLY.

Boston ♦ Boston Strikers Soccer Club. Weekly novice and club scrimmages. All levels. 3 p.m. Info: Erik 423-0929 or Jeff 876-7612.

Boston ♦ Dignity Mass. Liturgy followed by a social hour. St. John the Evangelist Church, 35 Bowdoin St.



5:30 p.m. Info: 536-6518.

Boston ♦ Western Orthodox Church Mass. Arlington St. Church, 351 Boylston St. Info: 227-5794.

Boston ♦ ALATEEN Group open to l/g/b youth 22 and under. 338 Newbury Street, rm. 202k. 6pm-7:30 p.m. Info: Dave 629-2518 or Frank 666-8912.

Boston ♦ Metropolitan Community Church Worship/Fellowship. 131 Cambridge St. (near Gov't Ctr.). 7 p.m. Info: Rev. Tanis 437-0420.

Boston ♦ Narcotics Anonymous. Lesbians and gay men. The Center, 338 Newbury St. 8 p.m. Info: 247-2927.

Boston ♦ The Gay Dating Show, WUNR 1600AM. 10:30pm-2:30am. Lesbians and gay men.

MONDAYS

Boston ♦ Positive Directions. Peer-led support group for HIV+ people. Boston Living Center, 140 Clarendon. 12:25 p.m. Info: 262-3456.

Boston ♦ Chiltern Downhill Skiing Lessons. Monday nights at Nashoba Valley ski area. Info: Jim 843-3966.

Boston ♦ Monday Night Dinners for PWA's and Friends. About 100 people with AIDS and their friends meet every Monday at AIDS ACTION for dinner. No reservations required. 6 p.m. AIDS ACTION, 131 Clarendon St. Info: 437-6200.

Dorchester ♦ Alcoholics Anonymous. First Parish Church, Mtg. Hs. Hill. Beginners 6:30, hardhats 8 p.m.

Boston ♦ Boston Bisexual Women's Network Coordinating Comm. The Center, 338 Newbury St. Info: 247-2927.

Worcester ♦ AIDS Project Worcester. A support group for family, friends, concerned others dealing with HIV. 305 Shrewsbury St. 7-8:30 p.m. Info: (508) 755-3773.

Boston ♦ Northern Lights Alternatives Monday Night Rap Group. Talk to others living with HIV. 38 Appleton St. 7:30-9 p.m. Info: Ann O'Rourke 694-0964.

Cambridge ♦ Lesbian Rap Group. The Women's Center. 46 Pleasant St. 8-10 p.m. Info: 354-8807.

TUESDAYS

Providence, RI ♦ ACT UP/Rhode Island. Call for meeting place (401) 461-4191.

Boston ♦ ACT UP/Boston. The Living Center, YWCA, 140 Clarendon St. 7 p.m. Info: 49-ACT UP.

Cambridge ♦ 30+ Lesbian Rap. The Women's Center. 46 Pleasant St. 7-8:30. Info: 354-8807.

Cambridge ♦ Bisexual Women's Rap. The Women's Center. 46 Pleasant St. 7-8:30. Info: 354-8807.

Medford ♦ "We the People" -- with feminist Sheila Parks. WMFO 91.5FM. 7-9 a.m. Tufts U. radio.

Worcester ♦ Support Group for HIV+ G/B Men and Their Significant Others. Closed meeting. AIDS Project Worcester. 305 Shrewsbury St. 7-8:30 p.m. Info: (508) 755-3773.

Boston ♦ L/G Freedom Trail Band Rehearsals. No audition necessary. Mass College of Art, Longwood and Brookline Ave. 7:15 p.m. Info: 266-0628.

Cambridge TV ♦ PrideTime -- Boston G/L TV, with Jim Voltz. Cambridge Cable Channel 19. 7 p.m.

WEDNESDAYS

Hyde Park ♦ Women's Pick-Up Hockey. MDC Hyde Park Rink (near Dedham). 8 to 9 a.m. Info: Janice 326-1600 x350.

Boston ♦ Informal Meeting with Mayor Flynn's Liason to the Gay Community. Ann Sanders will be available 2 to 6 p.m. each Wednesday. No appointment necessary, but Ms. Sanders can be reached at 725-3485.

Boston ♦ Boston Alliance of G/L Youth (BAGLY). Open to youth age 22 and under. 35 Bowdoin St. New persons' meeting 6 p.m.; women and men meet separately 6:45 to 7:30; general meeting 7:30 p.m.

523-7363 or 1-800-42BAGLY.

Cambridge ♦ Lesbian Al-Anon with child care, wheelchair accessible. Women's Center, 46 Pleasant St. 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. Info: 354-8807.

Springfield ♦ Names Project Meeting. New chapter with weekly quilting meetings. All welcome. Frontier. 19 Pearl St. 7 to 10 p.m. Info: (413) 788-7459

Boston ♦ Bisexual Adult Children of Alcoholics. Mass. General Hospital. 7:30 p.m. Info: Marge 259-1559.

Boston ♦ Positive Directions. Peer-led support group for HIV+ people. Boston Living Center, 140 Clarendon. 7:30 p.m. Info: 262-3456.

Worcester ♦ Support Group for HIV+ who are in Substance Abuse Recovery. Closed meeting. AIDS Project Worcester. 305 Shrewsbury St. 7:30 to 9 p.m. Info: (508) 755-3773.

THURSDAYS

Boston ♦ Boston Area Rape Crisis Center drop-in group for women who have been raped. 492-RAPE.

Boston ♦ Names Project Quilting Bee -- for the AIDS Memorial Quilt. Sewing supplies and support provided. Boston Living Ctr., 140 Clarendon St. 7th flr. 7 to 9 p.m. Info 451-9003.

Boston ♦ The Coalition for L/G Civil Rights. Meets every Thursday. The Center, rm 202K. 338 Newbury St. 6:30 to 8 p.m. Info: 828-3039.

Portsmouth, NH ♦ Out and About. A lesbian social and support group. Info: Keryn (603) 749-5852.

Boston ♦ Positive Directions. Peer-led support group for HIV+ people. Boston Living Center, 140 Clarendon. 7:30 p.m. Info: 262-3456.

Provincetown ♦ Positive PWA Coalition Weekly Rap Session. 7:30. 155 Bradford St. Peer led. Info: (508) 487-3998.

Boston ♦ The Group. Discussion and social hour. The Center, 338 Newbury St. Info: 266-1129.

Cambridge ♦ GAMIT Study Break. (GAMIT = Gays at MIT.) GAMIT lounge, room 50-306, 142 Memorial Dr.

Fridays

Watertown ♦ GLOW: G/L of Watertown. Info 395-4664.

Boston ♦ GCN Friday Night Stuffing Party. Come stuff the paper, eat pizza, and make new friends. GCN, 62 Berkeley St. 5 p.m. Info: 426-4469.

Boston ♦ Friday Night At The Movies. The Boston Living Center. 140 Clarendon St. Free. 7 p.m. Info: 236-1012.

Boston ♦ Body Electric. Healing w/sensual massage for gay and bisexual men. \$12. Info: 522-9164.

Boston ♦ Positive Directions. Peer-led support group for HIV+ people. Boston Living Center, 140 Clarendon. 7:30 p.m. Info: 262-3456.

SATURDAYS

Boston ♦ Frontrunners. Meet at Metropolitan Health Club for 2 to 5-mi. run along Charles. Lockers and showers complimentary. 10 a.m. Also: Tues. 12:15 p.m. at MHC; Wed. 6:45 p.m. at Hatch Shell. Info: 282-0013.

Cambridge ♦ Single Mothers' Support Group. Free drop-in group with child care, alternate Saturdays. Women's Center. 46 Pleasant St. 11am-12:30 p.m. Info: 354-8807.

Boston ♦ Pink Flamingos. For TV/TS of New England. 4:00 to 6:00 p.m. 338 Newbury St., 2nd flr. Info: 247-2927.

Boston TV ♦ PrideTime -- Boston G/L TV, with Jim Voltz. Boston Neighborhood Network, channels A3 and A8. 7:30 p.m.

By Sue Hyde

The Gulf War has frustrated gay and lesbian activists who seek the rescission of the U.S. Armed Forces policy that mandates the exclusion and discharge of homosexual service members. Since war has commenced, the Pentagon has dug deeper into its trench, defending and maintaining its homophobic policy.

Department of Defense Policy Directive 1332.14, established in 1943 to deal more "humanely" with homos in uniform during World War II, declares "homosexuality is incompatible with military service." Although its establishment during a shooting war may lead some to think it could be relaxed or rescinded during another shooting war, that is as likely to occur as General Colin Powell conducting a Persian Gulf briefing in a sequined ball gown.

It is abundantly clear from the pattern of enforcement of Policy 1332.14 that when the military needs bodies, gay and lesbian bodies will do just as well as heterosexual bodies. Usually, but not always, the rule is: what the generals don't know about their queer underlings won't hurt the order of rank and command.

Perry Watkins' case is the exception that proves the rule. Watkins was enlisted by the Army in 1967, having answered a bold and lavender "yes" to the question concerning homosexual tendencies. Watkins enjoyed a 14-year career in the Army, including a stint in Vietnam and some rather unusual extra "assignments" involving drag shows at the officers' club. Abruptly in 1982, following Sgt. Leonard Matlovich's limited victory against the Air Force policy, the Army decided to enforce its anti-gay policy and declined to allow Watkins to re-enlist. Watkins' case concluded last year when the U.S. Supreme Court refused to hear the Army's lame excuses about why it had failed to enforce its policy which called Watkins a threat to the morale of his fellows. The Army was ordered to re-enlist Watkins if he chose to go back in (the Army, not the closet).

So, Perry Watkins outlasted the Army and another war gives rise to other interesting Pentagon fumbles in their seemingly endless game of keep-away. Most recently, a lesbian Army reservist challenged the policy by requesting a Gulf assignment and coming out

Queers keep out!

The categorical exclusion of gay men and lesbians from the armed services is a reflection of the strength and tenacity of our political movement



as a lesbian in a letter to her commanding officer. Gay and lesbian activists waited to see if the discharges of openly gay and lesbian soldiers and sailors would, after all, continue to be processed in the country's latest semi-declared war. The Army had just issued an order to suspend all "non-essential" discharges. Would the purging of Donna Lee Jackson's lesbianism be thought essential to winning the Gulf War? Could *esprit de corps* and locker room solidarity possibly survive in the presence of unhidden homosexuality?

A lot of hopes rode high on Donna Lee Jackson's gamble with the Army. If the military enforced its policy and discharged Jackson, she would be spared the life-endangering Gulf War assignment. At the same moment, any possibility of a wartime challenge of the policy would evaporate. If the military, even temporarily, abandoned its

exclusion/discharge policy, there could be no credible arguments to support its reinstatement, since lesbians and gay men would have risked queer life and limb to defend George Bush's manhood or whatever it is we're defending in the Gulf.

On Friday, Jan. 11, the Army spokesman stated without equivocation that discharges of homosexuals were essential to the war effort. On Friday, January 18, Donna Lee Jackson was honorably discharged from the U.S. Army, her challenge to the homophobic policy having lasted 11 days.

Most remarkable about Jackson's end run on the policy is the Army's (and all the services') certainty that "our boys" can't put up with openly gay and lesbian colleagues and co-workers. This attitude tests credibility for many reasons, but most obviously, in post-Stonewall America, vast numbers of people in this country know

someone who is gay or lesbian, especially women and men born after 1960. If the Pentagon's policymakers ever bothered to ask their recruits, they might discover a very different attitude about homosexuality among younger service members than they now presume exists.

Despite societal changes towards gay and lesbian people, Donna Lee Jackson's military coming out story in 1991 contrasts sharply from Perry Watkins' 1967 admission of homosexuality that was to be completely ignored by Army recruiters. The most significant difference between then and now is this: there is a gay and lesbian political movement that has identified Policy Directive 1332.14 as a central symbol of the second class social and political status of lesbian and gay people.

Like advocates for African-Americans and women, gay and lesbian activists know that any group of people categorically excluded from the responsibility of defending the country will be likewise denied access to the full rights and benefits of citizenship. It is precisely because of the strength and tenacity of our political movement that the Pentagon has hunkered down to maintain the policy. Those guys grasp the symbolic and literal meaning that will be made of policy rescission when it happens. They are not willing to take the blame for letting "them" into the straight boys' club.

Perry Watkins served as an openly gay soldier for 14 years. Donna Lee Jackson lasted just 11 days and the door was firmly slammed in her face and the faces of other gay and lesbian service members. If the Gulf War offers any hope for policy rescission, it may be in the surge of organizing that could follow the war, when returning gay and lesbian vets are disgusted with the realities of a second class life. Even if Bush and the Pentagon refuse to acknowledge them, there are lesbian and gay soldiers and sailors risking their lives to establish U.S. military supremacy.

January 21, 1993 will mark the 50th anniversary of Policy Directive 1332.14. It will coincide with Bush's second inaugural, if he is re-elected, which perhaps depends in part on the success of his military adventure in the Persian Gulf. Poetic and social justice would be well served if Bush were greeted that day by a regiment of lesbian and gay

Continued on page 11

The ICA and the Goethe Institut
present

Ulrike Ottinger

A Film Retrospective



TICKET INFORMATION

Films are shown at 7:30 pm; 6:00 pm on Wednesday, Jan. 30 only. Tickets: \$4 members, students, senior; \$5 general. Series passes available - contact The ICA at 617.266-5152. Tickets sold after 5:30 pm on the day of screening on a first come, first serve basis. No refunds, returns or exchanges.

January 25-31 at The ICA Theater

January 26 at Loews Copley Place

Call 617.266-5152 for details

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